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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 3 -

MAYOR GUARANTEES FOOD AND MEDICINE IN TRUCKING STRIKE-With the crippling grip of the truck strike scheduled to clamp down today on large sections of the city's industrial life, Mayor O'Dwyer assured New York's 7,750,000 citizens yesterday that they need fear no shortage of food or medical supplies as a result of the tie-up.

The Mayor's expression of confidence was issued after he had received a report at Police Headquarters on arrangements made at a State Mediation Board conference between high city and union officials for the emergency movement of vital commodities during the strike.

Employer representatives, who had rejected a wage formula recommended by the Mayor for settling the strike, stayed away from the session and indicated they had no intention of cooperating in the emergency arrangements. The joint wage scale committee representing the two major associations of truck owners advised all the operators to keep their trucks in the garages today even if the union supplies drivers.

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U.N. FOOD TALKS OPEN IN DENMARK-Copenhagen-The annual conference of the United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organization opened today, and the attention of all the representatives was directed to the grim picture of a world acutely in need of basic foods despite gains since the latest general report was made last spring.

The urgency of the international food situation is still so pressing that it brought immediately from Sir John Boyd Orr, the FAO's director general, a plea for the adoption of his proposals for regulated production and pricing of foods crossing national boundaries. This program will undoubtedly dominate the discussions of this conference for the next fortnight.

The Ministers from all legations except the Russian attended; the Soviet Union was represented by a deputy. The Russians have not yet indicated whether they will join the FAO or even attend the conference as observers, as they did at the first meeting at Quebec.

The FAO's revised world food survey, made public today, showed some improvement since an emergency meeting heard of the desperate conditions last May. It said that the gap between the needs and supplies of bread grains had fallen from more than 10,000,000 tons to about 8,000,000 tons.

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PROPOSE WORLD FOOD BOARD-Copenhagen-One proposal has already been placed before the conference, Sir John, before the session opened, presented a plan for the establishment of a world food board to control distribution, and the standing committee on marketing and economics had endorsed it.

The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration's Director General F. H. La Guardia, arrived tonight to attend the conference.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

From The N.Y. Times, Sept. 3 -

FARM LABOR PROBLEMS-Editorial-Unless one appreciates the current revolution taking place in American farming the situation reported by The National Grange Monthly seems a paradox. City dwellers reading the comforting statistic of this season's crops do not understand the farm owner's labor problems. The average urbanite has the general impression that in spite of a 25 percent or more manpower shortage during the war the American food supply increased that amount and more.

But the monthly organ of the National Grange organization reports that a recent survey shows farmers are getting less than 50 percent as much work per man as they did in the middle of the Nineteen Thirties. The present situation involves two major trends. First, the mechanization of farming is making it possible to produce more food with less labor. Second, the trend today is toward shorter working hours in agriculture. The eight hour day and five or five and a half day week have become standard in business and industry. Farming until recent years has been marked by long hours. It is unreasonable to expect that able and ambitious young people will remain as agricultural workers if they have longer hours and less satisfactory living conditions than they can earn for themselves in the urban centers. The number of farms is growing smaller the number of acres under cultivation is decreasing. The crop yields indicate that farming is growing more efficient. It is part of the social and economic trend that farm workers shall share in the benefits of fewer hours of manual labor.

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FAMINE AID GROUPS ASKED TO "STAND BY"-Washington-Chester C. Davis, chairman of the President's Famine Emergency Committee, today issued a message to local committees telling them that they are in an inactive or "breathing spell" status, but asked that they hold their organizations intact. The committees were urged to be prepared for possible further famine relief action, perhaps as early as December of this year.

As to the outlook, Mr. Davis said:

"While the longer-time phase of the food emergency is expected to continue at least until the 1947 crops are harvested, no one is in a position to say now just how serious this new situation will be. In spite of the very encouraging signs that the 1946 world food crop will be considerably larger than that of last year, it will still be under pre-war levels.

"In the United States, record or near-record crops of corn, wheat, meats, dairy products and eggs are in prospect; but this country produces only 10 percent of the world's total food supply. And, throughout the world, carryover stocks of wheat and other foods are extremely low.

"The fight against famine, therefore, is not yet finished. It is in a breathing spell between rounds. World food problems are still urgent and it is possible that they may again become acute, as early as December."

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LONDON MEAT SUPPLY IS TIED UP BY STRIKE-London-The whole of London's meat distribution machinery broke down today with the first strike in the present campaign of the powerful Transport and General Workers Union for a closed shop.

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SURPLUS GRAINS IN 1947 WORRY AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS - Chief worrier is Secretary Anderson. Numerous factors enter the picture. First are the 1946 bumper crops. The indicated mountain of cereal includes 3.4 billion bushels of corn, 1.1 billion bushels of wheat, 1.4 billion bushels of oats. That's a record high for wheat and corn, a near-record for oats.

Equally important, but less in the public eye, are excellent weather conditions for planting next year's winter wheat. This seeding will start soon in the Southwest, where rains have put soil in prime condition. Present \$2.00 wheat, plus continued Government talk of big foreign demand, may cause farmers to over-plant.

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HOG-GROWING SHOULD BE MORE PROFITABLE IN MONTHS AHEAD. Or, as the farmer would say, the "corn-hog-ratio" is likely to favor raising pigs. The "ratio" is the relation between the price of a bushel of corn (chief hog diet) and the price of 100 pounds of hog. If the price of the hog is eight times that of a bushel of corn the ratio is said to be "eight." That's about what it is now with corn around \$2.00. But March corn in the futures market has been selling at \$1.30 to \$1.35. If cash corn gets that low when the big crop is in, the ratio will move to 12 or higher.

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SUGAR PRICE RISE CAN BE EXPECTED SOON, WITH MORE JUMPS TO FOLLOW - Dealers look for a series of increases which by early next year may boost refined cane sugar to about 7.50 cents a pound. The current price is 6.10 cents. Responsible for the climb will be the escalator clause in the Cuban-U. S. sugar purchase contract stipulating that the price paid Cuba must be lifted in proportion to increases in the cost of living in the U. S., as measured by the Bureau of Labor index.

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LIVESTOCK, POULTRY FEEDS TO COST LESS - Chicago - The return of white flour is not only good news for the American housewife, but will mean more feed at reasonable prices for livestock and poultry feeders, Walter C. Berger, president of the American Feed Manufacturers Association, said.

Asserting that livestock and poultry feeders will have one-third more tons of valuable millfeeds per month, beginning in September, Mr. Berger said this meant that 150,000 tons of millfeeds, which formerly were left in the dark flour every month, would again be available for animal feeding.

"These millfeeds, along with the abundant corn crop and the harvesting of flaxseed, cottonseed and soybeans, mean plentiful supplies of feeds at more reasonable prices."

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 3 -

HAWAIIAN SUGAR PLANTS SHUT DOWN BY STRIKE - Honolulu - Members of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen Union, CIO, employed by 33 sugar plantations in the Hawaiian Islands were called off their jobs when their old contract expired Saturday night, completely shutting down in the Territory's sugar industry. A 10-day strike, the planters said, will wipe out the Island's entire 1946 production gain over last year and might have serious effect upon mainland supplies.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce)

Farm Digest 1905-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, September 3 (Cont.) -

CANADIAN GRAIN CROP ABOVE 10-YEAR AVERAGE - Winnipeg - Canada's Prairie Provinces will harvest 934,300,000 bushels of all grains this year, according to an official estimate by the three western wheat pools.

Last year's crop total was 735,300,000 and the 10-year average 748,400,000.

Of the 1946 total, an estimated 440,400,000 bushel of wheat will be reaped, 314,300,000 of oats, 156,100,000 of barley, 5,100,000 of rye and 8,400,000 of flax.

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WHEAT PACES RISE IN GRAIN FUTURES - Expectations that the CCC wheat purchase price will be raised and the continued scarcity of box cars stimulated preholiday covering by shorts and commission house support which resulted in further advances in Chicago wheat futures

Bullish sentiment in wheat and other grains was aided by reports that the Secretary of Agriculture may include them in the list of commodities in "short supply" to be announced after the close of the market. While it was stated that such action would not be taken with the intention of reimposing ceiling prices it was nevertheless feared that the foundation would thus be laid for seeking ceilings later on in the event that tightness should develop in any of the grains.

Some market observers also pointed out that problems of the CCC in obtaining wheat needed for export would probably be simplified in the event ceilings were reimposed as that agency has purchased only negligible quantities recently.

However, reports persisted during the week that the CCC purchase price would be advanced and such action would tend to allay fears that machinery was being set in motion toward eventual recontrol in the face of record harvests.

The Chicago office of the CCC announced that it had purchased 250,000 bushels of wheat on Friday, which brought the total to date to 7,586,000 bushels, an insignificant quantity in relation to the over-all export goal.

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From the New York Herald Tribune, September 3 -

READY-TO-WEAR BUSINESS UNDER INQUIRY BY OPA - Walter Langsdorf, chief district price executive of the Office of Price Administration, announced yesterday that the ready-to-wear clothes business was under investigation. Injunctions were being prepared, he said, naming "illegal operators who do nothing for the industry but raise prices to the consumer."

Some manufacturers, he said, in order to boost prices to retailers, were setting up dummy wholesalers to handle their products. Such wholesalers, he said, often were relatives of the manufacturers and operated without the sanction of the OPA.

Many manufacturers, he said, previously had applied to the OPA for permission to sell as wholesalers, but had been turned down on the ground that they could not furnish evidence that they could buy goods at a recognized jobber's discount.

"We are going to take punitive measures against these spurious set-ups," he said, "and put them out of business. Their existence has only led to the mulcting of millions of dollars out of the pockets of consumers."

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From The New York Herald Tribune, August 30 -

"SNIPING" IS OUT OF ORDER-Editorial Roy L. Thompson, chairman of the Price Decontrol Board, in a statement to the press on Wednesday, declared that price control over dairy products will be restored only if the board finds that prices have risen unreasonably. Emphasizing that any decision on the question was exclusively within the board's province, Mr. Thompson observed that "any statements from any other source whatsoever are merely suppositions or speculation and should be treated as such."

This was obviously a thinly veiled rebuke to Paul A. Porter, Price Administrator, for remarks he made in the course of a pep talk to employees of the Office of Price Administration here the day before. Expressing his disappointment that the Decontrol Board had not authorized the restoration of ceilings on dairy products, Mr. Porter declared: "But we will be back and insist that fluid milk and dairy products be put under control."

This was a truly astonishing example of bad taste, and abundantly warrants the reproof that it brought from the chairman of the Decontrol Board. Unfortunately, this is not the only example of lack of teamwork demonstrated by Mr. Porter since the new law went into effect, with its three-way division of authority. He had attempted, in effect, "to steal the ball" from Secretary Anderson with respect to livestock and meat prices even before this. On top of that, in his talk here earlier this week Mr. Porter publicly ridiculed the argument of the Secretary of Agriculture that higher livestock prices would encourage increased meat production. "There is no principle of government or genetics," he told the employees of the OPA., "by which price control can bring a two-year old steer to market in less time than God meant for it." No one, of course, even said that there was.

Mr. Porter's remarks here suggest that he is interested less in the development of a program of orderly decontrol than he is in the question of who is going to bear the onus for any further price increases. His message to his employees was one urging them, in effect, to explain to the public that if prices rose further this would not be the fault of the OPA but (one is forced to infer) of the two co-ordinate agencies. This sort of sniping obviously cannot go on. For Mr. Porter to continue to play politics with price control after the fashion of his predecessor, Mr. Bowles, would mean, sooner or later, the undermining of public confidence in the agencies now associated with him in that task.

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From The Des Moines Register, August 28 -

DEALERS BALK AT MILK RISE-Milk dealers in Des Moines Tuesday told producers they won't pay them \$4.25 a hundred pounds for "market" milk starting Sunday, Sept. 1. They now are paying \$3.90.

Producers say the 35cent increase on that date was promised earlier by the distributors.

Dealers contend that any increase in the wholesale price of milk would have to be passed on to consumers. They say the Des Moines market won't stand a further increase.

Retail prices of milk have advanced from 14 to 16 cents a quart by one-cent stages since June.

From the Chicago Journal of Commerce, August 29 -

RAILROAD EARNINGS - Editorial - Railroad financial reports for July indicate that the interim increases in freight rates which took effect July 1 were inadequate to offset lower traffic volume (as compared with the wartime July of last year) and substantially higher operating costs.

Although one month -- and that in the Summer -- is not sufficient criterion to judge how much rates should be increased permanently by the Interstate Commerce Commission, the reports issued Monday are interesting, for they cover the first month of the interim rate rise. Of 19 railroads, only two -- Wheeling & Lake Erie and Norfolk & Western -- showed improvement over July of 1945. The others suffered severe declines in net incomes and net operating income and, in a few cases, deficits, compared with earnings a year earlier.

The interim increase granted by the ICC was 6 percent, with certain exceptions that are important to some roads, those in the West particularly. Only 3 percent more was allowed on agricultural products and low grade products of mines and much of July traffic was in those goods. It was not, by far, as profitable traffic as the nation's lines were carrying in July of 1945.

Whether, even under those conditions, the carriers can operate in the black, remains to be seen. That is a question the ICC is trying to decide on the basis of its hearings. Costs of operation continue to mount. The price of soft coal has gone up again. Congress has imposed an added \$100,000,000 burden on the lines in the form of increased social security. Shippers cannot brush off those facts in opposing freight rate increases.

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From the Commercial Appeal, Memphis, August 28 -

CABINS IN THE COTTON AREN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE - Evidence of the economic and social transition that is bestirring the South is evident to the eye in Eastern Arkansas, where the change is developing more rapidly, perhaps, than in other parts of the immediate area.

It is the campaign to make the farm more attractive financially and socially than the town or city in order that the farm families remaining in the country will be content with their lot when they compare their status with the city dweller.

The tenant house has not reached the hot and cold running water stage, as yet, but don't be too certain that it is too far off.

It is the exception, rather than the rule, these days to see tumbledown, drafty, woebegone tenant houses. Extensive repairs have been made generally, imitation brick siding has been widely used to make the houses more attractive and to shut out the wind; new paint jobs have become the order of the day.

But on top of all this is the steady building of new houses to replace the old -- the construction moving more rapidly than could have been believed a few years ago.

Where there is no new construction there is a tendency to move the houses into small groups, rather than have them scattered all over the plantation. Then they are repaired, modernized, wired for electricity and become livable houses.

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From the Democrat and Leader, August 27 -

BLACK MARKETS AGAIN - Editorial - Dire predictions are being made that when meat goes back under retail price ceilings Sept. 9, black markets will flourish again and the honest butcher's shelves will once more be bare. But government spokesmen are confident they can keep the situation in hand. The Decontrol Board declared that the government now had "adequate technique" to enforce its regulations.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 4 -

TRUCK TIE-UP CUTS DELIVERY OF FOOD-The creeping paralysis of the first general trucking strike in six years slowed down the city's commercial life yesterday and curtailed the movement of food, despite renewed assurances by Mayor O'Dwyer that there was no occasion for consumers to become panicky.

With trade leaders fearful that prolongation of the strike would plunge hundreds of thousands of workers into idleness and cause millions of dollars in business losses, union and employer spokesmen conceded that there was no likelihood that tie-up would end in less than a week and that there was a strong probability it would last even longer. No negotiations for a settlement were under way.

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SHIP STRIKE IS SET; U.S. TIE UP LOOMS-A general maritime strike which might tie up all merchant vessels on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf Coasts, regardless of national flag, was called for tomorrow afternoon by the Seafarers International Union and the Sailors union of the Pacific, both AFL affiliates, yesterday. The unions acted in protest against the refusal of the Wage Stabilization Board on Aug. 24 to approve negotiated wage increases won by their members.

Between 80,000 and 100,000 men have been alerted for the strike and subsequent picket duty, John Hawk, SIU vice president, said. The honoring of these pickets by members of other unions would mean a complete paralysis of shipping in American waters, he declared.

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OPA FINDS CITY IS FACING 'TERRIFIC' MEAT SHORTAGE-First signs of a meat shortage, which a Government official said would become "terrific", have made their appearance in the wholesale markets of this city, it was disclosed yesterday.

Investigators of the Office of Price Administration found "very little activity" in many of the wholesale houses.

The findings of the OPA agents, made known by Harry Pfeffer, district enforcement chief of the food section, were substantiated in part, at least, by the Department of Agriculture, which reported that dressed beef receipts in the city last week were about 300,000 pounds less than in the corresponding week of last year.

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MEAT PACKERS HALT DELIVERY-Philadelphia-The city's three largest independent meat packers halted deliveries today to 2,500 retail butcher shops because they could not buy livestock at the new OPA ceiling price.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, Sept. 4 -

LOW CEILINGS HALT BEEF, PORK OUTPUT-Chicago-Production of beef and pork came almost to a standstill throughout the country today as the new ceilings of \$20.25 a hundred pounds for cattle and \$16.25 for hogs became effective. In the July-August free-trade period a peak of \$20.25 was established for steers and \$24.50 for swine. Both were all-time Chicago highs, compared with June bids of \$18 for cattle and \$14.85 for hogs.

Movement from farms was almost completely shut off. No strictly top grades of either cattle or hogs were reported offered for sale in any of the country's public stockyards. All selling points received the smallest totals in their history. Some of the smaller concentration yards did not receive one animal, and operators said they saw little hope for getting any in the near future.

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U.S. ACTS TO BOOST CITY MILK SUPPLY-Washington-The Agriculture Department tentatively approved today a new milk marketing agreement designed to spur production and curb the use of milk for manufacturing purposes in the New York City area during the short winter season.

A department spokesman pointed out that the city, which has suffered winter milk shortages during the last three years, probably would face its biggest crisis this winter because of a further reduction in the number of dairy cows supplying the area.

He said that the proposed agreement would tend to stabilize the city's supply.

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CITY SEEKS CHANGE OF VENUE IN MILK SUIT-White Plains, N.Y.-Supreme Court Justice Charles W. U. Sneed reserved decision here today on a motion made by the New York City Corporation counsel's office for a change of venue from Westchester County to New York County of a suit brought by Westchester to invalidate the city's dictation of the amounts of milk that Westchester and ten other suburban counties may receive from six major distributors.

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ITALY, 3 NEUTRALS ADMITTED TO FAO-Copenhagen-A former enemy nation and three neutrals whose positions during the war were under the closest political and economic scrutiny by the Allies were brought into the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization today by an overwhelming vote.

The new members are Italy, Ireland, Portugal and Switzerland. The conference heard a formal presentation of Sir John Boyd Orr's proposals for a World Food Board and a price-stabilization program for world food supplies. Consideration of the director general's program is the primary consideration of this conference and it is destined to develop into a sharp clash of national interests.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 4 -

BREAK IN MARKET WORST SINCE 1930 - The stock market yesterday suffered its worst break for a single day since June, 1930, as individual stocks broke from 1 to 17 points in the heaviest trading in seven months. As a result virtually all of the gains since V-J Day were eliminated.

Brokers pointed out that the industrial average in breaking through the low level of February had confirmed that the long term price trend had been reversed following the reaching of a high point late in May. The term "bear market" was used to describe the trend although market students, who have been correct in interpreting the price movement thus far in 1946, were not unduly pessimistic although anticipating further decline. They pointed out that we have already experienced a 16 percent decline and predicted that the downward movement would be of short duration.

One stock, National Dairy, which closed Friday at 37, rapidly broke to 30 during the day with the bid and ask quotation 29-31. Support soon developed for this issue, however, and it closed at 34-1/2.

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LIVESTOCK CEILINGS RETURN CAUSES DIP IN PRICE INDEX - The new ceilings on livestock went into effect yesterday, forcing the commodity price level down sharply. The new maximum on hogs, plus weakness in corn and rye set back The Journal of Commerce daily index of 30 sensitive commodity prices to 232.7 compared with 236.9 on Saturday. Raw cotton eased off 15 points at Galveston.

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THOMAS NOW SAYS 70¢ FAIR COTTON - Washington - Aides of Chairman Elmer Thomas, (Dem., Okla.) of the Senate Agriculture Committee said today that wage increases at 350 cotton textile mills must be reflected in textile and raw cotton prices.

At the Southern cotton conference in Atlanta early last month, Thomas agreed with agriculture commissioners from cotton-growing States that farmers must receive 65¢ a pound on cotton in order to meet the minimum wage then effective in the cotton industry. Thomas' aides said the Senator's position now is that if the farmer has to raise his labor rates, he is entitled to an average of 70¢ a pound for his cotton.

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GRAINS REACT AFTER INITIAL ADVANCES - The volume of trading in Chicago grain futures was small and prices moved irregularly after displaying firmness during early trading as traders awaited new incentives.

Some early buying through commission houses was attracted by reports of small country offerings of all grains; expectations of light receipts at terminal markets resulting from the shortage of cars and continued indications that the Government will increase its wheat purchase price in an attempt to acquire larger quantities for the export program.

Bullish sentiment also stemmed from placing of wheat and corn on the "short supply" list but initial advances which ranged from minor fractions to more than 1¢ a bushel were largely erased as selling appeared in the wake of the weakness in the security market.

(Turn to page 4 for more items from - - -
today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce)

Farm Digest 1925-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 4 (Cont.) -

COTTON PRICES OFF WITH STOCK MART - Despite strong price fixing on recessions, cotton futures fell almost \$2 a bale in sympathy with the decline in stocks, in a fluctuating session on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday.

Opinion on the floor was inclined to believe that the new Government report would be even shorter than the first bureau.

Around one o'clock, reports that securities had fallen \$4 to \$10 a share created some uneasiness. The trade seemed to withdraw as scattered liquidation dropped prices in all months to below 35¢. Lows of the day were touched shortly before the 1:45 call.

In the last hour, some large spot houses were active on the buying side. Prices recovered from \$1 a bale from the lows at closing.

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COTTON PRODUCTION ESTIMATED AT 9,347,000 BALES ON SEPT. 1 - The second cotton production survey of the season, compiled from reports of several thousand correspondents throughout the belt, indicates that 9,347,000 bales, of 500 pounds gross weight, will be picked and ginned, as of Sept. 1 conditions. This is an increase of 252,000 bales above the Journal of Commerce first report on Aug. 1 when it was predicted that 9,095,000 bales would be harvested. Compared with the Government's first report, released on Aug. 8, the present survey shows an increase of 57,000 bales.

Condition of the crop progressed slightly during the month, the percentage of normal for the end of August, according to the average of correspondents, being 69.8, compared with the 69 percent at the end of July. It must be noted, however, that the over-all indication includes progress in some States and deterioration in others. The same analysis applies to the indicated yield per acre, which now has reached 249 pounds, compared with the Journal of Commerce Aug. 1 estimate of 243 pounds and the Government's 248 pounds for the same date.

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From the Wall Street Journal, Sept. 4 -

STRIKING NEW YORK TRUCK DRIVERS ALLOW ENTRY OF PERISHABLES - The strike of 25,000 New York City truck drivers was on yesterday, but shipments of perishable foods into the metropolitan area continued near normal. The International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL) Local 807 agreed to a state mediation board proposal to permit long haul truck cargoes of essential items to enter the city.

Fresh fruits and vegetables were reported moving in normal quantities through the Pennsylvania Railroad's Desbrosses Street terminal and the gigantic Washington Market wholesale area. Milk companies reported shipments of raw milk continuing, although bottles and containers were held up by the strike. The trucks of major meat packers serving the New York area were manned by a non-striking local, the packers said, and were not affected. Drivers for the city's major chain food stores, however, have refused to handle truckloads of non-perishable foodstuffs, police said, pending clarification of the essential items agreement.

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REPORT FROM THE NATION-Midwest States-Effects of Meat Price Rise on Production Unsettled-Omaha-The probable effect of the action of Secretary of Agriculture Anderson in ordering higher ceiling prices on livestock provided the Midwest with a lively topic this week.

In authorizing increases of \$1.40 a hundredweight on hogs and \$2.25 on cattle, Secretary Anderson expressed the hope that the increases would stimulate livestock production and the finishing of more animals in Corn Belt feedlots.

The Midwest's reaction was difficult to weigh. At the big packing centers dealers and producers expressed a sigh of relief that prices had not been rolled back to June 30 levels, although the tops dictated by Mr. Anderson constitute a retreat from recent high-price levels.

But the sigh of relief was no reliable indication that farmers would jump immediately into expanded feeding of animals. Their immediate reaction appeared to be a "Let's-wait-and-see" attitude. Market observers said the recent Washington juggling had left the average farmer badly muddled.

Some students of farm prices contend, however, that the price structure set up by Mr. Anderson is one that will permit a competent feeder to make a profit, even though he must pay higher than normal prices for feeder cattle.

Whatever happens in the near future to develop 1947 meat supplies, Midwest observers are rather thoroughly agreed that the country's meat menu will slump during the next two or three months. The rush to get animals to market during the non-control period has drained much of the available supply, with choice beef and pork particularly short now.

THE UPPER SOUTH-Papers Argue Over Growth of Mill Buying of North-Richmond, Va.-The steady trend which has put more and more Southern textile mills into the hands of northern owners continues, with the result that, as shown by The Charlotte (N.C.) News, nearly one-third of the 18,100,000 spindles in the South now have passed from southern top control.

This phenomenon is viewed with considerable head-shaking in most southern quarters, since observers have long pointed out that southern industry is so largely controlled outside the region that the South has been described as a "northern colony." But The High Point (N.C.) Enterprise views the trend favorably.

"The fact that northern capital is coming South is one of the best things that ever happened to the South," says this newspaper.

"What if the money does come from outside? As soon as the industry is located in the South it becomes just as much an asset to the South as if it all came from Southerners."

The Raleigh (N.C.) News and Observer, on the other hand, regards home ownership as "far preferable to absentee ownership." It adds, however, that if the money received from the sale of local mills "is used to establish new industries, there is something to be said for the point of view that the South will be helped, instead of hurt, in the long run."

PACIFIC STATES-Northwest Maps Expansion On a Paul Bunyan Scale-Los Angeles-The Pacific Northwest, noted for its lumbering, set out this week to grind some Paul Bunyan-size axes.

For a long time the area encompassed by Oregon, Washington, Montana and Idaho has been nursing a packet of collective grievances and ambitions.

A big peeve has been what is regionally construed as freight rates "rigged" so that Eastern manufacturers tap the region's raw materials and send back manufactured goods, while local processing is discouraged. Another concerns wheat rates and prices regarded as discriminatory against the Northwest. Another is the current boom in shipments of phosphate rock to Japan for grinding into fertilizer, rather than having local processing.

(Report from the Nation continued on page 6)

The four States have formed "Pacific Northwest United," a corporation which will be chartered in Washington State and will agitate on behalf of the whole gamut of regional interests, from air transport to limestone quarrying.

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From The Davenport (Ia) Democrat and Leader, September 1 -

NATION'S DINNER TABLES TO BE SHORT OF MEAT THIS FALL, EXPERTS DECLARE-Chicago-(UP)-The nation's dinner tables will be short of meat again this fall and winter, agriculture experts said Saturday.

But they added that the prospects for more steaks and pork chops by next spring were good. Some believed there would be more meat next spring and summer than at any time since World War II started.

The corn crop is the key to the meat outlook, they said. If corn is plentiful, farmers will feed more of it to livestock. Fatter animals mean more meat.

This year's corn crop promises to surpass all previous records. The bumper crop has been estimated at 3,442,202,000 bushels. Large crops of oats, barley and hay also are anticipated, all of which adds up to more meat.

But fattening animals takes time, the expert pointed out, and the meat supply will remain small until farmers begin sending their fattened animals to the stockyards next spring and summer.

The shortage will be severe in the next 60 to 90 days, the experts said. During the last two months, while there were no price ceilings for meat - on - the - hoof, farmers jammed the stockyards with cattle and hogs to take advantage of the higher prices.

As a result, much of the cattle fattened on midwestern feed lots already has been marketed.

Robert Grieser, cattle expert for the Chicago Producers' Commission association, pointed out that much of the livestock slaughtered recently was light weight, and should have been fattened for a longer time.

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From Watertown (N.Y.) Daily Times, August 28 -

PUT THE CONTROLS BACK ON MILK-Editorial-Paul A. Porter, OPA administrator, wants price control restored to milk and milk products. He frankly says that he was disappointed when the decontrol board decided that no further controls were necessary. Mr. Porter believes that the board will soon find that, without ceilings, milk and milk products prices will rise to such an extent that consumer resistance will increase and chaos will result.

We agree wholeheartedly with Mr. Porter. We believe that ceilings should be put back on milk and milk products, not only for the benefit of the consumer but also for the benefit of the farmer. We are just as convinced now as we always have been convinced that the return to the farmer under a system of price control and subsidies was greater than it will be in a so-called free market.

Dr. Blanford, the milk administrator, had to act promptly to prevent the dealers from grabbing off the full amount of the increase in retail price for both milk and milk products. But there will be constant pressure on the part of the handlers to get a larger share of the consumer's dollar at the expense of the farmers. Under the subsidy system the price to the farmer was guaranteed. Under the present system, it is not.

Already consumer resistance has driven down the price of butter in the free market system. We suggest that Mr. Porter bring such facts as this to the attention of the price recontrol board. The milk lobby was careful to see that no such evidence was presented at the time of the hearings but it is not too late now.

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SEP 9 1946

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 4094. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Sept. 5 -

TRUCK TIE-UP HERE WIDENS-The truck strike cut more deeply into the city's lifelines yesterday as 10,000 drivers in Northern New Jersey quit work in sympathy with the 15,000 away from their jobs here.

With the prospect of a settlement growing increasingly remote, deliveries of canned goods and groceries from major distributors were at a standstill, the milk supply faced sharp curtailment and the two largest biscuit companies were forced to halt all distribution in the metropolitan area.

Rank-and-file members of Local 807 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL, largest of the strike unions, refused to heed appeals by their leaders to man trucks carrying meat and other food to units of the Atlantic and Pacific, and Bohack store chains, even though both organizations had signified their readiness to grant the wage increase of 18½ cents an hour recommended by Mayor O'Dwyer. Shipments were made on a sporadic basis for other chains.

The tie-up in the movement of thousands of items essential to the city's commerce, ranging from cigarettes to refrigerators, was complete. However, little interference was reported in the movement of perishable foods, except those for the chain stores. Most drivers engaged in the transportation of meat, butter, eggs, bread and fresh fruits and vegetables are members of local unions not involved in the dispute, and city officials were confident they would continue at work despite renewed threats by individual strikers to "stop everything that rolls."

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SHIP STRIKE BEGINS AT NOON-Despite last minute moves by the Wage Stabilization Board, the general maritime strike called by the Seafarers International Union and the Sailors Union of the Pacific, both AFL, is scheduled to begin at noon today. Ninety thousand seamen are due to walk off their ships in protest against WSB refusal to sanction previously negotiated wage increases.

The present strike schedule calls for all men to be off their vessels after noon today, and a mass meeting will be held at Manhattan Center, 311 West Thirty-fourth Street at 3p.m. Picketing is to begin early tomorrow morning.

The West Coast units of the unions "jumped the gun" on the strike yesterday afternoon, with a walkout of 3,000 men at Pacific Coast ports. Officially, however, the strike commences at 6 a.m., Pacific Time, Harry Lundeburg, SUP secretary said.

CIO support to the AFL seamen's walkout was promised by Joseph Curran, NMU president, and Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, who announced that their members would "cooperate and respect all picket lines."

A spokesman for the Maritime Commission here predicted a "complete shut down" of all maritime activity in the United States if strike plans were carried out as announced. He said all ships, whether American for foreign and all shipping along the coasts, between the coasts and transoceanic, would be affected (Turn to page 2 for other items - - - - in today's N.Y. Times.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 5 -

OPA DOUBLES MEN ON CHECKING MEAT-Washington-The Office of Price Administration, announcing a plan to double the number of its investigators in a supreme enforcement effort, warned holders of thousands of pounds of stored meat in New York and other large cities today not to attempt to dispose of it in the black market after ceilings are restored on Sept. 9.

George Moncharsh, deputy Commissioner in Charge of Enforcement told a press conference that the OPA already had under surveillance "substantial amounts" of meat in New York, Chicago and elsewhere which had been bought at "terrific prices" during the price control holiday on the chance that it would be sold before the lid went back on.

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LIVESTOCK PRICES DOWN BY ONE THIRD-Livestock prices paid by slaughterers in this five State region have dropped much as one third from their decontrol high to meet the new ceilings on cattle, which took effect this week, it was reported yesterday by James L. Meader, regional head of the Office of Price Administration.

Mr. Meader based his announcement on the findings of 250 OPA investigator who fanned out through the primary meat markets of New York, Jersey City, Lancaster, Baltimore, Buffalo, and other distribution centers. He said live cattle were being sold in New York, Jersey City, Lancaster and Baltimore at the over riding ceiling of \$20.85 a hundred pounds, and in Buffalo at \$20.65 the ceiling there. Prior to the reimposition of ceilings live cattle prices had hit a high of \$30.25.

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PRODUCE CHARTS ENDED-With only oranges and bananas remaining under price control, the Office of Price Administration announced yesterday the discontinuing of weekly retail price ceilings charts for fresh fruits and vegetables.

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SHORTAGE OF MILK LIKELY TOMORROW-A milk shortage threatens the city tomorrow as a consequence of the truck strike, which has cut off deliveries of paper containers to the milk distributors.

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TIN PLATE CUT 15% FOR CAN PRODUCERS-Washington-An additional 15 percent of tin plate production, which earlier had been channeled to the manufacture of cans for such urgent items as perishable foods and pharmaceuticals, was freed today for general use by the Civilian Production Administration.

Specifically, existing orders were amended to provide that 70 percent rather than 85 percent of tin mill production must go to such cans, the relaxation to become effective on Sept. 30.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 5 -

PRICE BOARD PLANS SPEEDY DECISIONS - Washington - Members of the Price Control Board yesterday moved to put themselves in readiness for rapid decisions on industry decontrol appeals.

Set up under the Price Control Act as the ultimate authority to determine the speed at which ceilings should be removed, the board began to draft the procedures under which negative decisions by the Price Administrator or the Secretary of Agriculture will be reviewed.

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CASEIN SHORTAGE TO HIT CONSUMERS - The world is running out of casein, urgently needed by United States paper, paint, plastics, rubber, textiles, building materials, and leather manufactures, leading producers and suppliers told The Journal of Commerce yesterday.

There will be a definite shortage of casein in this country for at least six months. Stocks are the lowest on record. Current domestic production is at an all-time low and it is now the season of low production in Argentina, the principal producing country. Supplies will not last more than another 30 days at the present rate of consumption, industry executives said.

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LARD ROLLEBACK, GRAIN LOSSES FORCE PRICE LEVEL DOWN - The sharp rollback in lard prices as new ceilings became effective plus further declines in wheat, corn and barley set the commodity price level back for the third successive day. The Journal of Commerce daily index of 30 sensitive commodity prices dropped to 230.6, compared with 236.9 last Saturday, the last session before live stock ceilings became active. Despite another decline in raw cotton prices, the textile group averaged higher, reflecting the new September ceiling for print cloths.

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FERTILIZER INDUSTRY EXPANDING PLANTS - Spring Lake, N. J. - The fertilizer industry is expanding its facilities just as rapidly as materials are available and restrictions are removed, Clifton A. Woodrum, president of the American Plant Food Council, said here today. Woodrum said that "surveys indicate that 30 or more fertilizer plants were either started during the war or projected for construction by private industry."

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COTTON PRICES DEPRESSED BY HEDGE SELLING - Increased hedge selling met steady trade demand on moderate recessions in a fluctuating session on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday. Mill support and local covering was bringing prices to early high levels before closing.

Despite the continued weakness in stocks which influenced cotton futures on Tuesday, an air of steadiness was noticeable in price movements yesterday. The market seemed to be awaiting new factors, either in weather, export demand or the domestic political situation. Meanwhile, observers noted, prices seemed confined to the 35-36¢ range, with hedging appearing at the upper end and trade buying increasing even on minor recessions.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.) - - -

Farm Digest 1935-46-3

From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce, Sept. 5 (Cont.) -

WHEAT, CORN SAG - September oats continued to display strength at Chicago during early trading yesterday with support stimulated by a firm cash market but wheat and corn was reactionary on selling induced partly by further weakness in the stock market.

There was a scarcity of news directly pertaining to grains and some of the decline in wheat and corn was attributed to evening-up as traders moved to the sidelines pending new incentives.

The James E. Bennett estimate of a 3,327,440,000 bushel corn crop compared with the last Government forecast of 3,442,202,000 bushels and 1945 outturn of 3,018,410,000 bushels had no apparent effect on the corn price trend as the indicated crop was still of record proportions and, in addition, it was expected that feeding demands will be considerably smaller this season.

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ORR PRESENTS PLAN FOR WORLD GRANARY - Copenhagen, Denmark - Sir John Boyd Orr, Director General, urged the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization today to create a world food board as "a message of hope to the thousand million undernourished people."

The United States, through Morris E. Dodd, Under Secretary of Agriculture, and Canada quickly supported the objectives of a plan to make food surpluses available to needy through a world-wide "ever normal granary" setup.

Dodd told the conference the United States was "strongly in favor of the objectives laid down." He recommended the establishment of an FAO commission to work out in detail an international program for stabilization of farm prices at levels fair to producers and consumers.

* * *

From the Wall Street Journal, Sept. 5 -

CONSUMERS' SUGAR RATIONS WILL HAVE TO LAST UNTIL MARCH - Washington - U. S. consumers will have to get along on their present sugar rations until March next year, when the 1947 Cuban crop becomes available, the Commerce Department reported. After that, "a more generous distribution" may be possible.

The Commodity Credit Corp. has contracted to buy practically all the Cuban crop for release to distributors in this country and assignment of a portion to other nations.

An anticipated increase of at least 525,000 short tons raw value, of Cuban sugar next year and larger production from other offshore and domestic sources should improve the 1947 supply position, it was said.

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EGG FUTURES MAKE PARTIAL RECOVERY - The sharp decline in securities late Tuesday and early nervousness displayed by stocks yesterday had a depressing effect on shell egg futures on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, forcing values to recede for losses of 60 to 80 points at one time under scattered trade selling and LaSalle Street Liquidation.

A strong recovery move developed in late trading and closings were unchanged to 15 points net lower....Aiding the late recovery move was a report that at New York more than 28,400 cases were removed from storage....

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DAIRY TRADE FACES CRISIS TOPPING WAR-"Wanted: More Milk!" A crisis in the dairy industry."

In this terse slogan National Dairy Products Corp., largest producer in the industry, summarizes its belief that the American dairy industry faces a crisis more acute than in the war years. With the exception of evaporated milk, not a single dairy product is in sufficient supply to meet domestic demand in 1946, let alone foreign relief needs, officials of National Dairy said in a week-end interview here.

Decontrol of dairy products, which was not expected by the industry, has been greeted as a great blessing, but it has by no means removed all the urgent problems of dairy producers, the officials said. Now, they said, they face the task of protecting this freedom by keeping prices down.

To date, dairy product prices as a whole have not increased more than the amount required to replace the loss of subsidy payments, National Dairy officials said. However, they pointed out that maintaining dairy price freedom is going to be uphill work in the face of the recontrol threat voiced openly by Paul Porter, Office of Price Administration chief.

Crux of the problem, National Dairy said, is to boost declining milk production to meeting the rising demand for dairy products. Only in this way can prices be kept in line in a free market, they said.

Working against accomplishment of this balance of supply and demand, National Dairy pointed out, is an increasing human population plus a rising per capita demand for milk, balanced against a decreasing cow population. Using figures for 1920 to equal 100 per cent, National Dairy showed that the index of human population stands at 132.3 per cent this year while the number of cows is 124 per cent.

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From The Davenport (Ia) Democrat and Leader, September 2--

GETTING CLOSE TO 1920 PEAKS-Editorial-Until very recently the United States had congratulated itself on avoiding a runaway price inflation like that during and after World War I. Until recently the World War II general price increase had been only about one-third that of the World War I.

This picture was changed by the sharp advances of recent weeks. Today food prices on the whole are not far from the highest peaks reached after World War I, and are still going up. And some other retail prices are either above the height to which they climbed in 1920 or not far below.

The peak of general retail prices paid by wage-earners in large cities after World War I was reached in June, 1920. With the average for 1935-39 equaling 100, the index in June, 1920, was 149.4. And on July 15, 1946, the index had risen to 141.0. That was only 5.6 per cent (8.4 points) lower.

On July 15, 1946, the OPA was in a state of suspension, so that technically there were no black market prices. However, in some cases the prices reported to and by the Government price investigators may have been lower than prices actually being charged most consumers -- especially when certain commodities were available only in relatively high price stores.

Altho retail food prices, on the average, were thus 10.4 per cent (19.3 points) lower on July 15 last than at the World War I peak, they had increased no less than 13.8 per cent over the 30 days from June 15. The largest single 30-day advance in general retail food prices during and after World War I was nine per cent (between March and April, 1917). Some of this unprecedented advance between June and July, 1946 was due, of course, to the removal of the subsidies that had been paid on many central articles of food.

(The Davenport (Ia) Democrat and Leader continued on page 6)

(The Davenport (Ia) Democrat and Leader continued)

How much higher will retail food prices go? Some indication may be given by recent wholesale prices, because the wholesale prices of today are reflected in the retail prices of tomorrow. (In 1920, the peak of wholesale prices came one month before the peak of general retail prices.) In the week ending Aug. 17, 1946, the wholesale price index of foods was only 0.1 per cent lower, and that of farm products was only 3.8 per cent lower than at the peak of 1920. It would seem, therefore, as the food prices are destined to go higher than after World War I.

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, August 31 -

CHICAGO'S SUGAR BELIEVED AMPLE, BROKERS ASSERT-Chicago should not experience a sugar shortage as a result of the funneling of midwestern and western supplies farther east to alleviate shortages there, altho a temporary shortage may occur in the next month because of a lack of box cars to transport it, Chicago sugar brokers said yesterday.

Commenting on a department of agriculture announcement that "surplus" sugar from midwestern and western states is being sent to the eastern seaboard where shortages are acute, brokers said the movement has been going on for about a month, but that such sugar is going no farther east than Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

Hoyt Bonner, Chicago manager for Lanborn & Co., said supplies are ample to meet ration requirements in the Chicago area and farther west with sugar obtained from western refineries. The new crop of Louisiana cane will be on the market soon to help matters, altho the west currently has a crucial box car shortage.

Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan, however, are suffering as much as the eastern seaboard, Bonner said. Normally the three states obtain sugar from eastern refineries, which are having difficulty supplying their own neighborhoods. The eastern shortage has been attributed in part to allocations to the United Nations relief and rehabilitation administration, which has taken its supplies from eastern stocks.

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From The Milwaukee Journal, September 1 -

HERE LIES THE LAST FLY-Editorial-Published prediction of a prominent scientist that the days of the house fly may be numbered, that DDT may rid mankind of one of its most annoying and dangerous insect pests, should doubtless be greeted with happy acclaim.

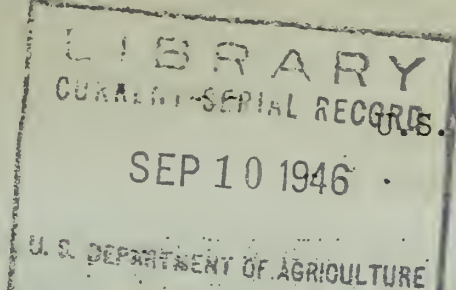
Which of us has not been warned of the bacteria that lurk on the housefly's hairy legs? What American school child has not had it dinned into his consciousness that he should swat the fly without mercy or remorse? What comfort and what saving of expense and disease if only the last house fly were exterminated!

And now, says the scientist, the fly is on his way out. The screen and fly swatter manufacturers may moan if they want to. The fellows who make spray guns and insecticides can rub their hands in anticipation. The rest of us are tired of shooing and swatting and will be willing to do our share of spraying if that's the way to greater peace and health.

It will be a happy day when mankind can truthfully sing, "There are no flies on us."

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DAILY FARM NEWS DIGEST
(For Sept. 6, 1946)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C.

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 6 -

SHIP STRIKE TIES UP AMERICAN PORTS- A nation-wide strike of "disastrous" proportions spread through the ports of the nation yesterday as American Federation of Labor maritime workers mobilized all hands in the first day of their walkout.

In New York, New Orleans, San Francisco and other ports on all three coasts men of the Seafarers International Union and the Sailors Union of the Pacific walked off ships and laid plans for widespread picketing this morning.

Shipping men warned that if the strike is sustained for a period of days, as it most likely will be, the effect on the country would be that of "a major disaster."

More than 3,000 American ships and an estimated 150,000 seamen of all unions, including the Congress of Industrial Organizations units that are expected to honor the AFL picket lines, would be affected as their vessels return from voyages.

President Truman announced in Washington that the strike was in the hands of the Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach, who said last night that he had sent a personal representative to the West Coast to confer with Harry Lundeberg, head of the SUP union, in an attempt to shorten the strike.

In San Francisco the shipowners association of the Pacific Coast appealed directly to President Truman last night, implying he should abandon his "wait-and-see" policy and intervene to halt the seamen's strike, the United Press reported.

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O'DWYER TAKES OVER IN TRUCK CRISIS- With the city's supply network choked off under the combined impact of the truck and ship strikes and the railroad freight embargo, Mayor O'Dwyer took personal command last night of efforts to establish a functioning system for the emergency movement of food and other essential commodities.

Hopeful of averting public suffering the face of the unprecedented transportation tieup, the Mayor announced that he would preside at a Police Headquarters meeting this morning with committees representing two associations of truck owners and Local 807 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL. Officials of the New York and New Jersey State Boards of Mediation will also attend the conference.

The Mayor's entrance into the efforts to guarantee movement of items necessary for life and health came as the three day old truck strike in this city continued to spread to New Jersey areas. Nine hundred general truckmen in Newark were made idle yesterday by the blockading of routes leading into Hudson County and New York, and 3,000 drivers in six counties in Central Jersey were scheduled to quit work in a strike of their own today. (Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, Sept. 6 -

WORKMEN REFUSE TO LOAD UNRRA SHIP-Expressing indignation at the failure of the Government to prevent the sailing of the freighter Barlesville Victory with relief supplies for Yugoslavia, longshoremen refused to continue loading the vessel early yesterday, bringing all work on the pier to a halt.

"When there was no move to cancel the trip, we decided to take our own action," said Bernard Hickey of 110 West 101st St., a young stevedore and former Army sergeant in Europe. "We would rather see the cargo going to Greece or any other country that gave us some help in the war."

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VAST SUPPLIES OF UNRRA ARE TIED UP BY STRIKE-Washington-The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration tonight said that the shipping strike would affect 125 ships and large quantities of UNRRA cargo scheduled for shipment abroad.

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MILK DELIVERIES WILL BE CUT TODAY-Cuts in the amount of milk to be delivered this morning were put into effect yesterday by the city's milk distributors as a result of the truck strike, which has cut off the shipment of paper containers to pasteurizing plants.

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HUGE MEAT CACHE FOUND-Philadelphia-Agents of the Office of Price Administration reported today that they had discovered 300,000 pounds of meat "hidden away" in four of the city's thirteen big cold storage plants.

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INVOCIES ON MEAT FOUND DATED BACK-Swarming through the city's market areas on the first day of reimposed wholesale meat price ceilings, agents of the Office of Price Administration discovered yesterday a new kind of violation but found no evidence of open defiance of price controls.

The new dodge, said to be fairly widespread, involved dating the invoices to retailers as of Wednesday--the last day without wholesale meat ceilings--although delivery was not made until yesterday. As a result, said Harry Pfeffer, head of the district OPA food enforcement unit, retailers received meat yesterday at prices in excess of ceilings.

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CITY IS RESTRAINED IN MILK DELIVERIES-White Plains, N.Y.-Acting on new detailed charges that New York City was "grabbing" more than its share of available milk supplies in defiance of common justice, interstate commerce laws and State and Federal agricultural regulations, Supreme Court Justice Charles W. U. Sneed granted from the bench here today a temporary restraining order against the city.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 6 -

RAIL EMBARGO HALTS FREIGHT AS SHIP TIEUP GROWS - A dreastic embargo on rail shipments of freight for movement by ship to offshore or coastal trades went into effect yesterday as AFL seamen on all coasts began what threatens to be one of the worst strikes of American shipping.

Rail officials said the embargo should stabilize the supply of box cars until a five-or-six day supply of export and coastal cargoes now on the rails can be stored, but otherwise the developing nationwide tie-up of shipping threatened a chaotic disruption in the flow of commerce.

Among other things, it appeared likely that: 1) Imports of sugar would be shut off immediately.....2) The vital northeastward coastal movement of coal from the Hampton Roads area to New York and New England may be shut off by sympathy strikes on the part of CIO maritime unions.....3) As many as ten of the largest tanker operators may find their operations shut down.....4) Exporters having shipments now en route to ports, or ready for shipment face heavy financial losses in the form of demurrage charges (for carload freight) or warehouse charges.....

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RETURN OF MEAT CEILINGS CAUSES SHARP DROP IN INDEX - Return of meat ceiling controls at the wholesale level caused another sharp downward revision in THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE daily index of sensitive commodities. Strength in cotton and dairy products was not sufficient to offset the drop in meat prices. The daily index dropped to 221.3 from a previous day level of 230.6.

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WANTS INSECTICIDE STRONGER THAN DDT, Spring Lake, N.J.- Cattlemen are strong for DDT but they still want something better, Ray L. Cuff, Kansas City regional director of the National Live Stock Loss Prevention Board, told the Agricultural Insecticide and Fungicide Association today.

What they want, he said, is "an insecticide that will kill all flies that light on animals, and that will continue to kill for two weeks. DDT effectively controls only those species of flies that remain on the animal long enough to absorb a lethal dose; it does a marvelous job on horn flies, house flies and mosquitoes, but in the commonly used concentrations it is not effective on stable flies, horseflies, bot flies, screwworm flies and heel flies."

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PRICE FIXING LIFTS COTTON ABOVE 36¢ - Renewed trade buying and new outside interests reversed the trend of prices late in a quiet session on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday.

The last three days of steady declines seemed to have dried up the selling orders. Observers noted an unusual scarcity of contracts. It was said that only prices around 36.40 would bring out offerings, but the trade was reluctant to push prices to that level, although closing quotations in October and December were less than 10 points below that figure.

Major factor on the buying side appeared to be the large demand by mills expected to result from the increased textile ceilings for September, which will include 5¢ of the 8¢ wage raise.

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Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N.Y. Journal of Commerce.)

Farm Digest 1955-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 6 (Cont.) -

WHEAT IRREGULAR; CORN AGAIN SAGS - Scattered small buying orders carried January wheat $1\frac{1}{2}\phi$ higher at Chicago at mid-day but deferred deliveries were $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to 1ϕ lower on limited hedge and commission house selling. Corn futures were down $\frac{1}{4}\phi$ The wheat market was a thin affair with trading on a very small scale and the open short interest was still insignificant as trading in that grain was resumed less than two weeks ago and there have been few developments since to stimulate trading.

Fractional losses in corn were again attributed to heaviness in the cash market.... Bearish sentiment in corn was also generated by reports that around 150,000 bushels of old crop corn had been booked overnight to arrive....

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LA GUARDIA SEEKS TO SHUT EXCHANGES, Copenhagen (AP) - Florello H. LaGuardia, UNRRA director-general, today proposed sweeping powers for a suggested world food board and offered a formula for price-fixing that would eliminate exchange trading and, he said, "make speculators go to work for a living."

Addressing the United Nations Food and Agricultural Conference (FAO) LaGuardia declared, "You cannot have both stability in prices and security for farmers as well as fluctuations in prices."

"It's no use saying we are not going to interfere with free exchange and free sales. If you want what is needed, you will interfere and you will put every gambling grain exchange out of business in Chicago, in Winnipeg, in Liverpool, or wherever it exists."

In pleading for creation of the food board, the UNRRA director said \$750,000-000 would be sufficient to start operations. He said surplus stocks held by the board would be cleared in a bad crop year.

- - -

DEPICTS ROLE OF ALCOHOL - How agricultural alcohol production converts waste and surplus crops into fuel for farm implements, feed for animals and fertilizer for the soil (and thus restores much of the traditional self-sufficiency of agriculture) is depicted by the Joseph E. Seagram & Sons, Inc., exhibit at the National Chemical Exposition, sponsored by the Chicago section, American Chemical Society at the Chicago Coliseum, Sept. 10 through 14.

* * *

From the Wall Street Journal, Sept. 6 -

WEST COAST CITRUS GROWERS WORRIED ABOUT MARKET SIZE, TREE DISEASES, Los Angeles - California's biggest enterprise, its quarter billion dollar a year citrus industry, is disturbed by problems of size. Growers are worried about the size of their market, the size of their orchards, the size of their crops, the size of their oranges, the size of their costs, and, above all, the size of their investments.

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CUBAN CABINET PROPOSES SEIZURE OF PRICE INCREASE U.S. WILL PAY, Havana (AP) - A decree empowering the government to seize a price increase to be paid by the United States for Cuban sugar shipped during the second half of the present year has been proposed by the cabinet. Sugar mill owners and cane planters rallied their forces for a protest against the proposed measure, which would deprive them of an estimated \$16.5 million gross income. The cabinet decided to turn the projected decree over to a committee composed of the Ministers of Agriculture, Commerce and Labor "for study." It was not stated whether the seizure had been approved in principle, nor the nature of the "study" to be made.

From The Kansas City Times, August 31 -

CEILINGS AND MEAT SUPPLIES-Editorial-In answer to attacks from the CIO and its Political Action committee Secretary Anderson has made an excellent defense of his order raising the ceilings on livestock. The CIO-PAC spokesmen contend that the secretary has "absolutely no regard for the American workers" and they would like to have him removed from the cabinet.

This is in line with the general policy of the PAC which demands that anybody who doesn't agree with it should be thrown out of office. But it is quite possible that in issuing his order the secretary of agriculture overlooked the PAC altogether, having in mind exclusively the American consumers and their demands for meat.

It's an obvious fact that when ceilings shut off the supply of meat or anything else they have a rather limited value. This small point too often has been overlooked by the OPA. Its chief object apparently has been to maintain ceilings regardless of supplies. But the average consumer doubtless would prefer meat to the mere assurance that ceilings were being held. When the OPA thought first of the ceilings it simply created a shortage of meat. A repetition of that doubtless would be a slight inconvenience even to some members of the PAC.

Secretary Anderson explains that "the consumers of this country get no lasting benefits from price levels that choke off supplies and create scarcities." He states that the price of grain is reasonable because supplies are adequate but that "the price of meat will never be reasonable until supplies improve." It was in the hope of bringing out such supplies as were available and of increasing supplies in the future that Mr. Anderson issued his order on the livestock ceilings. They will mean somewhat higher prices to consumers than those prevailing at the end of June when the OPA was temporarily suspended. But since subsidies are to be restored the new prices will be quite a bit lower than those prevailing in recent weeks.

From this condition the consumers will obtain their benefits. And it's quite possible that Mr. Anderson will retain his cabinet job, the PAC to the contrary notwithstanding.

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From Chicago Tribune, September 4 -

WORST MEAT FAMILIE SEEN; RECEIPTS DROP-The smallest supplies in history for the first day of the week at the Chicago stock yards yesterday indicated a crucial shortage of meat in retail markets in two or three weeks, if the marketing trend continues, meat experts said.

Packers said virtually no top grade beef or pork will be available in the regular trade, and forecast the return of meat lines for house-wives.

Much of the large flow of live stock that has been coming to market in recent weeks in anticipation of price restrictions will not reach consumers by Monday, the day retail price ceilings are to take effect, packers said. Large quantities of such meat are expected to find their way into the black market.

Meat spokesmen predicted the black market would return in even greater strength than before ceilings expired June 30. Legitimate butcher shops may be forced to close several days a week, and legitimate packers probably will have to lay off large numbers of stock yards laborers, because of the decline in slaughtering operations, they said.

The American Meat institute said it takes from 10 days to two weeks for meat to reach consumers after it is marketed, with somewhat longer periods for meats that are cured or aged. If marketings continue small, consumers will feel the pinch before the middle of September.

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From Watertown (N.Y.) Times, September 3 -

FARM BOOM NOW SEEN PAST PEAK-Chicago-Hold onto your hats, folks. The signs are gathering that the farm boom has passed its peak and is on the toboggan. Food and farm prices today may be comparable to the levels reached in 1920, just before the balloon collapsed with a loud bang.

In May, 1920, Chicago cash corn reached an average ceiling of \$2.02 a bushel. But it didn't last. By fall it had sunk to 74 cents and in the spring of 1921 you could buy corn on Iowa and Illinois farms for 40 to 45 cents a bushel.

Last Friday, Chicago cash corn was down a nickel to \$1.95 a bushel and moving weakly at that.

With the biggest potential crop in history out in the corn fields, farmers are hustling into town offering the new grain at \$1.25 a bushel and less for late fall delivery. They may be smart. They could do worse -- many probably will.

Parity price for corn is \$1.23 a bushel and the government by congressional act is under mandate not to let corn prices go below 90 per cent of parity. It may be hard-pressed to keep that pledge. Swine growers haven't forgotten yet how hog prices crashed through the floor pledged by the food administration only two years ago.

The new Chicago hog price ceiling is \$16.25 a hundredweight, down almost \$9 from the heights scaled during the de-controlled market a week or two ago. Both cattle and hog prices were due for sharp breaks this fall when receipts normally increase, regardless of the new attempt at price control.

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From The Boston Christian Science Monitor, September 3 -

FOOD FOR THE FUTURE-Editorial-Christiansborg, Denmark, is playing host to an international group whose main concern is the removal of two of the underlying causes of war -- want and hunger. The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization already has done an important work in preparing a comprehensive survey of world food needs and supplies, present and future.

In the past two months, record harvests have changed the picture decidedly for the better, but the threat of famine will not lose its full force until late in 1947. And an immediate task of the FAO is to recommend allocation of the present crops for human and animal use.

As for the future, even now in the midst of privation the fear of plenty must be dealt with, along with the tendency, induced by that fear, to curb production. For such a curtailment would mean a return to the anomaly wherein half the people around the globe are only half fed, while the other half plow under crops.

The answer seems to lie in some form of international food control such as the executive World Food Board proposed to the FAO, which in itself has only advisory powers. Such a Board would buy up surpluses and sell them to the poorer nations at prices under the world market. It would also carry a reserve of staple commodities as insurance against drought. This, it is maintained, would remove fear of oversupply, banish want in the midst of plenty, and result in better prices to producers.

Desirable as the plan may be, its adoption appears almost as remote as the achievement of a world government. For here, too, national sovereignty is a vital issue, and officials of some of the larger nations oppose the idea.

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DAILY FARM NEWS DIGEST
(For Sept. 9, 1946)

SEP 11 1946

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The Baltimore Sun, Sept. 9 -

SHIP STRIKE HEADS BACK TO CAPITAL-San Francisco-Government efforts to end the nation wide AFL shipping strike struck a snag today apparently shifting the solution back to Washington and Wage Stabilization Board conference Tuesday.

After a third and inconclusive conference, Phillip Hannah, Assistant Secretary of Labor, who flew from Washington to seek a truce, said it was possible he would return to the Capital at once.

Harry Lundeberg, operating head of the striking Sailors Union of the Pacific and president of the Seafarers International Union, which is striking on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, reiterated that his sailors would not return to their ships until the Wage Stabilization Board restores the reductions it ordered in wage increases negotiated by his unions. The board will meet Tuesday to review its decision.

Hannah had been instructed to ask Lundeberg to return with him to Washington for a conference with Secretary of Labor Schwollenbach, but a union spokesman announced:

"The membership has instructed Lundeberg to remain on the scene and direct the strike."

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END NOT SEEN FOR N.Y. TRUCK STRIKE-New York-Hope for a quick end to the New York truck tieup faded today when striking drivers and helpers refused to vote on a compromise proposal to end the walkout.

Twenty-five thousand drivers and helpers are on strike in the New York metropolitan area and operators of several hundred food stores plan to close their shops this week unless the walkout ends.

The union men who refused to vote on the compromise were members of Local 807, International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs (AFL). No date was set for another meeting. The union claims 12,000 members and 13,000 members of several other unions have joined the strike in sympathy or to win contract changes for themselves.

Informed of what happened at the union meeting, Mayor William O'Dwyer declared he would guarantee adequate supplies of food and other essentials for the city.

John E. Strong, president of Local 807, presided at the union meeting, but made no immediate comment. Strong had said earlier that if the union members voted to accept the compromise, between 5,000 and 6,000 of them would be back to work tomorrow.

Most of the truck operators have refused to accept the compromise, but some said they would if the union agreed.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's Baltimore Sun.)

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From The Baltimore Sun, Sept. 9 -

STRIKERS SAY TRAINMEN WILL RESPECT LINES-The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen has made an agreement with the two striking AFL maritime unions to observe their picket lines and not take any more trains onto the local piers, William Rentz, port agent for the Seafarers International Union, announced last night.

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PACKING PLANT EMPLOYEES CUT-Drastic reductions in the number of employes at meat packing plants in Baltimore are expected to be made this week, according to leaders in the industry yesterday.

Already more than 500 workers have been "furloughed" by four packing plants as a result of the meat shortage which started the first part of last week, immediately after the new OPA ceilings were placed on wholesale meats.

The majority of these were at the Albert F. Goetze, Inc. plant, where 300 persons have been let go, according to Mr. Goetze. He said that last week the plant was unable to get any pork, hams or bacon, and only had some sausage material to work with this week.

Corkran Hill & Co. Inc. has let one third of its employees go already with more to be relieved this week. A spokesman said, "We are down to rock-bottom, with not a hog coming in over a week, and nothing in sight at all."

He added that those who have been kept have been painting halls, sweeping the corridors and getting the plant in good shape.

At the Fox Packing Company, half of the employes-amounting to about 80--were dropped temporarily from the pay roll last week. An official said that ordinarily the company handles at least 1,000 cattle a week but that last week it had only 136 to slaughter.

Twenty-five persons have been "laid off" at the Quality Beef Company which expects to close down this week unless supplies would suddenly become available, a spokesman said.

A. W. Schmidt & Son, Inc., closed down its operations last week, but is keeping its employes for the present.

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NEW YORK CIO UNIT ASKS TRUMAN OUST ANDERSON-New York-The Greater New York CIO Council, which claims to represent 600,000 workers in the metropolitan area, asked President Truman today to remove Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture, "in the interest of the people's welfare."

The council said in a resolution that Anderson's recent order authorizing increases in livestock prices was in "disregard of the stated objective of the Price Control Administration to roll back meat prices to pre-June 30 levels."

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COFFEE TO STAY 5 CENTS A CUP, OPA PROMISES-Washington-The OPA came out today with the assurance that even though coffee has gone up from 10 to 13 cents a pound, there will be no corresponding increase for each cup.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 9 -

PRICES TOUCH 37¢ ON TRADE DEMAND - Cotton futures hit 37¢ a pound for the first time in more than two decades in the short session on the New York Cotton Exchange last Saturday. Trading was extremely active, although offerings were scarce except on a scale up.

The unexpected...advance in prices seemed based upon the steady trade demand arising from prospective cotton textile sales. The OPA has announced overnight that 5¢ of the 8¢ wage increase of certain cotton mills could be included in textile ceilings.

Lateness in the crop, of approximately one to three weeks, led to the scarcity of offerings by the other side of the market. A leading spot house, offering 2,000 bales on a scale up every three points, was overwhelmed by the demand. Only when prices in October and December touched the 37¢ level was further hedge selling and profit taking released.

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WHEAT RISE REFLECTS CCC BUYING POLICY - Announcement by the CCC after the close of the market the previous day that it would purchase wheat for export at open market prices brought in buying by commission houses and short covering which lifted wheat futures at Chicago as much as 2-5/8¢ to 3¢ at one time, but late evening-up reduced advances.

With the movement of wheat from farms restricted by the inadequate supply of box cars and withholding by some farmers, presumably for tax purposes, it was considered probable that the cash wheat market will display considerable tightness, at least for the time being. Market students pointed out that Government purchases over the past several weeks have been insignificant, far below the pace necessary to achieve the export goal, and that accelerated purchases will prove an important bulwark to the price structure.

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DOMESTIC WHEAT USE SEEN POTENTIALLY AT 1,130,000,000 BU. - Washington - Domestic uses for wheat totaling 1,130,000,000 bushels annually, which exceeds the total production estimated for 1946-47, are within the realm of possibility if wheat meets competitive prices of other products having similar uses.

That is the opinion expressed here by the Agricultural Department Committee of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

In a report on "wheat trends," the committee analyses of the problems confronting this field of agriculture, going into the war-year records to show that wheat farmers do not have to rely upon a favorable foreign export market to sell the billion-bushel wheat crops experienced in recent years.

"The key to a better adjustment of supply to demand lies chiefly in a greater utilization of wheat for feed and for industrial purposes, especially if a maximum acreage is to be utilized," the report stresses.

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N. Y. EXCHANGE CLOSES TRADING IN BUTTER - Due to the inability of many in the trade to move available supplies from docks and warehouses the New York Mercantile Exchange closed its call and values were quoted at unchanged levels.

(Turn to page 4 for more items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.) - - -

Farm Digest 1965-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 9 (Cont.) -

PACKERS PLEDGE PRICE COMPLIANCE - Chicago - The meat packing industry will make every effort to make ceiling prices on meat work, the American Meat Institute said in a statement today. The statement said that it is good business for the industry that the controls be made to work, so the average consumer everywhere can get full value for the price paid for meat.

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HOG MARKET - Arrivals of hogs at Chicago on Saturday were down to an estimated 300 head and the price was nominally unchanged at the ceiling of \$16.25. The twelve principal Western markets received only 800 head, believed to be an all-time Saturday low, and brought the total for the week to 27,100 head, only slightly more than 10 percent of the 222,400 head received the previous week and contrasted with 154,400 during the corresponding 1945 period.

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MARKETS - Market for Live Fowl firm and higher; Dressed Poultry strengthening....Sharp rise in Lettuce prices....Little change in Fresh Fruit market....Butter withdrawn from Exchange boards....Trade in Eggs hampered by strikes.

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LAGUARDIA SPEECH HIT AS "CLOWNISH PRATINGS" - Chicago - A plea by UNRRA Director F. H. LaGuardia to "put every gambling grain exchange out of business" was termed "intemperate" and "clownish" today by J. A. Higgons, Jr., executive vice president of the National Association of Commodity Exchanges and Allied Trades, Inc.,

Higgons said a recent survey among 1,800 economists, educators, heads of farm and commodity trade associations, chambers of commerce and editors of farm and commodity trade publications "showed that commodity exchanges are regarded by an overwhelming majority of authorities as necessary to the peacetime marketing of basic commodities in a free economy."

* * *

From the New York Times, Sept. 9 -

"SCARE FORECASTING" has become a major instrument in the administration of many of our economic controls. The latest use of this device is found in the announcement that we are facing a "terrific" meat shortage. In May and June of this year Chester Bowles and his associates warned the country that runaway price increases would develop if price controls were modified or suspended. In fact, by July 3 Mr. Bowles was announcing that the price "increases turned out to be worse than I had feared."

These forecasts have tended to confuse the public and to make difficult an objective appraisal of the problems under consideration. It is bad enough when "scare forecasting" is used by partisans to influence public opinion one way or the other. But there is no sound reason for the Administration to conjure up these mythical crises as "proof" that certain policies should be followed.

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From San Francisco Chronicle, September 2.-

A NOTE OF REALISM-Editorial-Secretary of Agriculture Anderson is to be commended for his realism in thumbing down the OPA's plan to return meat prices to June 30 levels.

The Secretary of Agriculture assuredly knows more about food production than does a bureau of so-called experts who divide their time, roughly 50-50, between manipulating prices and propagandizing the people on the virtues of price control.

Anderson's superior intelligence in the matter is illustrated by his statement that he ordered the higher prices to "obtain the necessary production of livestock and meat." If a price control doesn't serve that purpose, then it serves no purpose at all.

The OPA has not followed that practice of pricing goods "to obtain the necessary production." It has priced goods with the aim of keeping prices down, and very often the benefit of the low prices dissolved in the face of the fact that there was nothing being produced to buy.

The emdium Anderson seeks -- a price level just high enough to insure production -- is not easy to obtain, and there will have to be vigilance against profiteers who will try to take advantage of a good thing. But the very effort contrasts sharply and happily with the bungling which has marked the price-control picture to date, and merits the co-operation and forbearance of the meat-buying public to give it a fair chance at success.

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From The Boston Herald, September 5 -

NUDDLE IN MEAT-Editorial-For the next week or so, the only meat that Bostonians will be able to buy will be meat that is now in the city. The re-imposition of ceiling prices -- last Thursday for livestock producers, yesterday for packers, today for wholesalers and Monday for retailers -- has cut off shipments as cleanly as with a cleaver. The shortage will be at least as bad as the worst of the past.

Sandwiching a free-market period between two slices of control is producing a fantastic situation. Livestock has recently been rushed to market in unprecedented numbers. The frass-fed cattle slaughtered without fattening have cost the country from 300 to 400 pounds of meat per steer, besides bringing in poorer grades. Prices released from restriction but facing new controls have leaped well beyond anything justified by supply and demand, and there has not been time for the leveling influences to become effective. The result is that we have had to pay too much for a brief feast of meat, while sharply reducing the total amount available for the year.

Famine still lurks in the world. Chester Davis, chairman of the President's emergency committee, has asked local committees to stand by. Even with our bumper crops, we are not justified in expecting all the meat that our record income can afford. But it can hardly be said that our methods of price control and subsidies have stretched our supply any, or, so far at least, distributed them equitably.

If the higher ceilings do outbid the black market, then we can salvage something in the dying days of price control. The livestock movement in Chicago and Omaha in the next few weeks will tell the story.

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From The New Orleans Times-Picayune, September 4 -

MACHINES LOWER COSTS OF COTTON-(AP)-State College, Miss.-The continuing shortage of farm hands is bringing mechanization of cotton production a step closer every day, Delta research workers say.

They point particularly to the fact that postwar labor does not seem to be returning to the cotton fields.

Research conducted by Dr. J. E. Adams and P. W. Gull at the Delta branch experiment station at Stoneville shows that the mechanical cotton picker can reduce the hand-picking manhours for an acre of cotton from 80 to 85 hours to five man hours.

Their studies on mechanical production start with land preparation and continue on through dusting, planting, cultivation, thinning, defoliation, harvesting fiber and seed studies, and final utilization of the product.

Dr. Adams and Gull said the studies indicate that a plentiful supply of the spindle-type cotton harvester, which was developed as a reliable farm implement during the war, will alter the farm labor situation materially.

The research workers declared:

"Mechanization undoubtedly will aid the producer to stay in business but profits also will depend upon high yields in sufficient volume and quality to allow efficient manufacture. Adequate use of fertilizer with judicious use of cover crops and good seed must be combined with efficient production and harvest methods!

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From The Kansas City Star, September 4 -

MORE FOOD FOR THE WORLD-Editorial-While it is commonly given little attention, the easing up of the world food crisis is one of the vastly important developments of recent months. Last spring and into the early summer American people were being urged to consumer less and to save every possible scrap of food for the aid of millions who were starving in Europe and Asia. This part of the program was voluntary, although government regulations required millers and bakers to turn out darker flour and bread and the size of bread loaves was reduced by 10 per cent.

The President's famine committee issues the warning that the crisis is not entirely over and that the winter months may bring a partial return of it.

Yet the worst seems to be over. The Department of Agriculture reports increased world food supplies will not be up to the pre-war average they will mean considerable gains over recent available stocks. The international relief program can be modified accordingly while adequate attention is given to such needs as may arise.

In the meantime the United Nations food and agricultural organization is concerning itself with the long range program of world food. At the current session of this organization in Copenhagen its leaders have spoken hopefully of the outlook. At the beginning of their work they are encouraged by the present showing and will go forward with their efforts to improve methods of farming and food production throughout the world, especially in the most backward areas which previously have failed to supply their own needs. This phase of it will require many years of results. But the brighter prospects of the moment are an incentive to greater food production everywhere.

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SEP 12 1946

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 10 -

MAYOR TO ADD 2,000 TO THE POLICE AS TRUCK STRIKE PARALYZES BUSINESS-With the city drawing hourly closer to a total trade paralysis, the truck strike cut more deeply yesterday into the food supply, halted the movement of building materials and forced shut down of industrial plants. The city's largest sugar refinery was among the plants that closed.

Determined not to permit rank-and-file strikers, acting in defiance of their own union leaders, to interfere with the movement of trucks driven by members of other local unions, Mayor O'Dwyer announced that he had issued orders for the appointment next week of 2,000 new patrolmen.

The Mayor's announcement came as roving bands of strikers were stopping trucks in various sections of the city and warning the drivers to be off the streets by today. However, little interference was reported with trucks carrying milk, bread or other perishable foods, and the Mayor reaffirmed his personal guarantee that the over-all food supply would remain adequate.

Chain stores, which have been unable to obtain food deliveries since the strike began Sept. 1, announced that all their units would have to close by Saturday. City officials indicated that they had abandoned hope of arranging for food deliveries to the chains until a general strike settlement was effected.

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SEA LABOR TO BOYCOTT HEARING TODAY-A spirit of deepening gloom caught the nation's shipping industry and its port cities yesterday as the worst strike in maritime history went through its fifth day.

The Labor Department's "peace" mission to the West Coast collapsed, and on the eve of the meeting in Washington today of the Wage Stabilization to consider factors in the strike, it appeared certain that labor would boycott the session completely.

As the huge costs of the immobilization of the nation's great merchant fleet mounted by the hour there was no indication that any agency of the Government was prepared to meet the emergency with a solution.

President Truman, as far as could be learned, planned no intervention in the walkout, and appeared to be leaving it entirely in the hands of Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach, who conferred most of the day at the White House.

As the strikers' strength and confidence mounted and more ships were tied up on the East Coast, Assistant Secretary of Labor Philip Hannah, who conferred without success with Harry Lundeberg, head of AFL seamen on the West Coast, was flying back to make his report in Washington.

Other developments in the strike left little hope except for the tardy WSB meeting.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, Sept. 10 -

MEAT PRICES BACK UNDER OPA CEILING-Washington-Chart of the Office of Price Administration showing ceiling prices on fresh and canned meats will reappear in the country's 1,000,000 retail butcher shops tomorrow morning. Tonight government officials admitted the prospect of a general meat shortage for awhile, but insisted that predictions had been "overly pessimistic!"

On the eve of the return of meat controls, after a 71-day lapse, OPA officials restated assurance given by leaders of the meat industry over the week-end, that every effort would be made to bring all the beef, pork and mutton into legitimate markets.

The all-out drive against the black market, promised by Paul A. Porter, OPA administrator, to see that livestock brought to market moves into legal channels, it was emphasized, is now on.

At the same time there was little confidence in any hope that supplies, available at the new ceiling prices for the next two months, at least, would be anywhere near the level attained during the free market period of July and August.

Spokesmen for the OPA and the Department of Agriculture gave small encouragement, meanwhile, to those who have suggested that red point rationing be reinstituted.

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FAO TO ASK SOVIET AND ARGENTINA TO HELP PLAN WORLD FOOD BOARD-Copenhagen-The Soviet Union and Argentina will be invited to serve with fifteen members of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization on a commission to prepare detailed plans for a world food board and an international price stabilization program, it was learned today.

A proposal to send special invitations to the USSR and Argentina, although they are not members of the FAO, was unanimously agreed to this morning at a full committee meeting of the FAO conference.

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NO MORE SUGAR FOR CHAIN-Caught a second time in widespread violation of sugar rationing, the Rand Tea & Coffee Stores, Inc., was suspended yesterday from dealing in sugar for the duration of the rationing. The suspension applies to the chain's thirty-five stores in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Jersey City and Hoboken, and takes effect on Sept. 18.

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BRITAIN MAY SAVE CROPS-London-Fine weather over most of Great Britain today revived hopes of saving some of the soaked harvest. But sustained improvement in the weather is necessary to harden the ground before tractors can get to work.

Prayers were offered in churches yesterday for sunshine to save the crops from disaster.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 10 -

ACUTE FOOD SHORTAGE PERIL FACES EAST IN TRUCK STRIKE - New York city's week-old truck strike brought the possibility yesterday of an acute food shortage, plus widespread industrial shutdowns that threatened to lay off thousands of workers in the city area, and throughout the industrialized East, dependent on the New York terminal.

Effects of the strike were felt with increasing seriousness as far north as Portland, Me., and as far south as Baltimore, as large terminal areas that feed into and out of the New York area began to feel a slow paralysis.

New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia increasingly felt the pinch as deliveries were balked and the strike wave encompassed new areas that hitherto had been free of the tie-up. Reports were verified that shippers, who normally channeled products through New York from Philadelphia and other terminals, were diverting these shipments.

Butter, eggs, milk, other essential foods and cigarettes were listed at the top of "short supply items," as a result of the strike.

- - -

SHORT COTTON CROP FORECAST HALTS MILL SALES OF TEXTILES - Raw cotton supply and price outlook for textile mills turned blacker yesterday when the September crop estimate was released at noon by the Department of Agriculture. Only 9,171,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight each were indicated for harvest this year.

Despite the sharp reduction from August's estimate of 9,290,000 bales, prices on the New York Cotton Exchange tumbled as much as \$2.75 a bale. Observers said that the market had already discounted for an even larger reduction in the crop.

North street textile men, however, looked for a delayed bullish reaction to the estimate, which will mean more increases in their costs for the raw staple. Accordingly, primary trading in cotton goods was largely stopped, and producers prepared to mark time and watch the movement of futures on the Exchange.

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FIRST ITALIAN OLIVE OIL SINCE WAR ARRIVES - First cargoes of Italian olive oil since the beginning of the war arrived here late last weekend, when unloaded, will be distributed among consignees.

The cargoes totalled 6,096 cases of 12 gallons in various packagings were shipped in exchange for soybean oil from here.

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GRAIN FUTURES SAG IN EARLY TRADING - All grain futures with the exception of barley were reactionary during morning trading at Chicago yesterday with sentiment influenced by reports of beneficial rains in the corn belt, liberal oats receipts and weakness in the stock market.

There was little in the news directly pertaining to wheat and traders appeared to be awaiting extent of CCC purchases before making new commitments in that grain. Also tending to make for caution in all grain pits was talk that more cars were being sent into grain areas due to the embargo on many shipments to the seaboard and it was expected that this would result in larger receipts at terminal markets.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from - - - today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.)

USDA 1975-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 10 (Cont.) -

MARKETS - Short meat supply spurs demand for poultry....Most vegetable lines weaken....Blueberries higher....Most grades of eggs higher as strikes cut deliveries....butter, cheese advance....Opening prices for California almonds listed....Visible wheat supply rises only 693,000 bu....

* * *

From the Wall Street Journal, Sept. 10 -

STORM WARNING FOR COMMODITY PRICES MAY BE SIGNALLED BY THE STOCK MARKET - After World War I, stock started downhill in November, 1919. Six months later, in May, 1920, commodities went over the top. It's now been a little over three months since stocks started the 1946 skid which, through yesterday, had clipped 40 points from the Dow-Jones industrial averages. Many people think commodities won't follow the pattern this time. Many also thought they wouldn't in 1920. Then the toboggan ride started.

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MEAT PRICE CEILINGS MAY BE THROWN OVERBOARD BEFORE ELECTION DAY - Agriculture Department livestock experts, who never favored controls on meats, predict an almost complete livestock sellers' strike. Cattle men sold off their finished beeves before the ceiling renaissance. They are in a perfect spot to hold back animals almost indefinitely. Hog raisers can keep their squealers off the market until the first of the year.

Resulting outlook: An endurance contest to show how long the public will do without meat before forcing the Administration to heave controls out the window. And sober Washington soothsayers say the Administration will wilt at the prospect of an election rendezvous with a public angered by a long meat famine.

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FOURTH QUARTER SUGAR ALLOTMENTS TO INDUSTRY UNCHANGED - Washington - Industrial sugar allotments will continue unchanged during the fourth quarter of the year, the OPA said.

* * *

From the New York Herald Tribune, Sept. 10 -

STRIKE LEAVES GROCERY SHELVES BARER THAN IN WAR SHORTAGES - The food situation throughout the metropolitan area yesterday as the truck strike entered its second week took several sharp turns for the worse, and hundreds of store shelves were barer than in the most stringent days of the war.

The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company announced that 500 of its stores in New York City, Long Island and southwestern Connecticut, including Greenwich and Stamford, will close at 6 p.m. Saturday for the duration of the strike.

The National Sugar Refining Company, unable to make deliveries to customers closed its refinery at Long Island City, Queens, yesterday morning. The refinery is the largest in the city, and many bakeries, candy manufacturers and other users of sugar were threatened with closing by the end of the week.

* * *

REPORT FROM THE NATION-Central States-Stock Yards Again Denuded as Meat Scarcity Looms-Chicago-With nearly all of the 8,000 pens of Chicago's great Union Stock Yards denuded this week of meat animals, and similar conditions reported in a score of other livestock marketing centers throughout the country as a result of restoration of OPA price ceilings governing the industry, central Westerners were resigned to a return of menus minus steaks, chops and roasts.

Contributing to this state of mind among householders and restaurant patrons were predictions of a meat famine and a revival of the black market with greater strength than before ceilings expired on June 30. "Famine forecasts" of the meat industry, however, were termed "fright words" by James F. Riley, director of the Chicago OPA area, who gave this explanation of the situation:

"Meat shipments usually are low each September, and this year probably will be lower than ever because many producers shipped extra large numbers of cattle during August to get high prices paid before controls were re-established.

"Because family incomes are higher, with demand for meat growing faster than meat supply (although meat production is higher than before the war), there will not be as much meat as everyone would like to buy. But this situation is not 'famine' and it would exist whether or not meat price ceilings were reinstated."

Another distributing factor is the virtual certainty that a prolongation of the present trickle of cattle and hogs into the livestock centers will soon result in the closing of legitimate butcher shops several days a week.

MIDWEST STATES-Soybean to Lose Its Subsidy, But Future Looks Bright-Omaha-Soybeans are about to be "demobilized."

Midwest growers and processors received notice the other day that the Government believes the time is ripe for placing the crop on its own in an unrestricted market. A Department of Agriculture official told the American Soybean Association, which met in St. Louis, that there would be no subsidy covering the 1947 crop and that governmental controls would be lifted.

This is an abrupt change for a "cinderella" crop that performed valuable war services in dozens of ways. Most regional observers feel, however, that demand for the bean will remain high despite the absence of artificial props. Its versatility provides the reason.

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SPOKESMAN OF PRIVATE UTILITY INDUSTRY AND THE REA CONTINUE TO DISAGREE-With production the only major barrier to their race for the coveted 3,000,000 un-electrified farms in the country, the Rural Electrification Administration and the private utility industry last week were fighting vigorously for lead position through a series of speeches before farm groups in which they condemned each other on numerous counts.

Grover C. Heff, president of the industry's trade association, the Edison Electric Institute, scored the REA before a group of utility executives and equipment manufacturers in Colorado on Thursday with the statement that REA co-operatives were being used to socialize the electric power industry. "But it is my belief," he said, "that the big majority of the farmers will not lend themselves to such a scheme. Anyway, we must not let the short-sighted policy of a few national leaders prevent us from doing what we know is necessary to bring about the best service to the farmers."

Mr. Heff's remarks followed by a week statements made in behalf of Federal power expansion by Claude R. Wickard, administrator of the REA.

In a speech delivered before the American Institute of Cooperation at Purdue University in Indiana, Mr. Wickard had blasted with telling finality all hope that he would join hands with the industry at the National Farm Electrification Conference scheduled to convene in the Hotel Sherman in Chicago on Nov. 7 and 8.

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From The New York Times, September 8 -

UNPARALLELED MEAT FAMINE PREDICTED FOR THE COUNTRY-Chicago-Livestock industry spokesmen predicted today a meat famine such as the nation never before has seen. The prediction came as Chicago housewives stormed butcher shops to load up their refrigerators with the last steaks, chops and roasts they expect to be able to buy for weeks.

Blame for the situation was placed by the livestock men on the reimposition of price controls, ceiling prices at the slaughtering level which went into effect at midnight Aug. 31, and retail ceiling prices which become effective Tuesday.

Since the slaughtering ceilings were announced livestock receipts at the nation's stock yards have declined daily to new lows.

Thousands of workmen have been laid off.

Stock yards officials offered these reasons for the predicted meat famine:

1. Farmers and cattle raisers are opposed to any form of price or Government control and are holding animals for fattening on grains, which were not returned to price control.
2. Pastures were stripped of almost all grain-fed cattle when prices boomed during the lapse of price control. There are few left to send to market.
3. Grass-fed cattle from the western ranges, which yield only utility cuts and are the principal source of meat at this season of the year, are being withheld from market because of opposition to price control.

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From The Kansas City Times, September 7 -

A MAN-MADE MEAT FAMINE-Editorial-By continued intervention to hold down the price of meat Washington and the OPA have succeeded once more in drying up the supply. The great Kansas City Packing industry is virtually at a standstill with only a handful of animals ready for slaughter, 5,000 workers laid off, and Kansas City housewives walking from store to store trying to find meat for the family dinner, with store coolers nearly empty.

The same story is being repeated throughout the country. For the sake of an empty gesture of helping the consumer and meeting the demands of pressure groups, Congress and the administration have put out a schedule of low prices which looked fine until it was found there was virtually no meat in the distributors' hands.

The essential trouble did not lie in the price ceilings finally announced. It lay in the uncertainty that prevented orderly farm operations and produced the marketing rushes of July and August. The OPA was talking big about the price reductions it expected to be made. That was popular talk for consumers. But the threat of low prices in the face of increased costs naturally was disturbing to farmers who saw their normal operations menaced.

They rushed their stuff to market, many of their animals 200 to 300 pounds underweight. It went against the grain to do this, but the farmers believed they must get rid of their stock while it commanded free market prices. There was feverish buying and prices were driven up, although the top prices of livestock that attracted so much attention were those of a comparatively few choice animals.

As a result the farms were denuded of marketable stock when the price ceilings were on. It will be a couple of months or more before a fresh supply of marketable animals will be ready. Then there should be some improvement in the situation.

But uncertainty will still bedevil the farmers' operations. For half the subsidy on cattle is to be removed in January, and the rest on April 1, while the entire OPA set of controls is scheduled to go off at the end of June.

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SEP 13 1946

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

TRUCK STRIKE REDUCES NEW YORK TIMES TO 16 PAGES

The truck drivers' strike has prevented movement of news print to the plant or the New York Times from its warehouses and railroad yards. In order to conserve the dwindling supply of paper on hand and to continue publishing the news, the Times has omitted all advertising from this (Wednesday's) issue, except announcements of record.

From The New York Times, Sept. 11 -

O'DWYER SAYS COMMUNISTS STIR REVOLT TO PROLONG TRUCK STRIKE-Accusing Communist elements of stirring up the rank-and-file revolt that has thwarted efforts to settle the paralyzing truck strike, Mayor O'Dwyer sent a telegram yesterday to Daniel J. Tobin, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL, calling on him to take control of the principal striking local and negotiate an end of the tie up.

The Mayor's demand for immediate action by the parent union was made as the ten day old strike forced widespread industrial layoffs, deprived Brooklyn drug stores of penicillin and other medical supplies, halted all beer deliveries and made new dents in the food supply. An embargo on Railway Express shipments into New York, caused by the heavy additional burden thrust on the express agency by the truck strike, brought closer the hour when virtually all trade would have to suspend here.

With the strikers broadening their efforts to halt trucks carrying perishable food and other commodities, whose drivers are not involved in the strike, the Mayor warned Mr. Tobin that Local 807, the biggest of the striking locals, had passed complete out of the control of its own officers.

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AFL LETS TUGS CARRY ESSENTIALS-Striking American Federation of Labor maritime unions agreed last night to let tugboats and other harbor craft move supplies essential to the life of the city as Mayor O'Dwyer endorsed their effort to nullify the Wage Stabilization Board's order denying approval of the full amount of recently negotiated wage increase.

The AFL spokesman, Joseph P. Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Association, warned, however, that the action on tugboats did not mean a general relaxation of strike policy and said continued operation of the harbor craft "hinges on future events."

This, presumably, was a reference to a possible further decision of the WSB, which held a hearing yesterday in Washington on the AFL maritime wage dispute and scheduled an executive session today.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, Sept. 11 -

CEILINGS AND BLACK MARKET RETURN ON MEAT-The black market established a beachhead among the butcher shops of New York City yesterday despite strong opposition from an augmented Office of Price Administration enforcement staff on the first day of the return of retail meat ceilings. More than half of this city's retail meat outlets remained closed because they had nothing to sell, and a spot check by OPA through the five boroughs indicated that one in every ten that did business was in the black market. Illegal prices ranged from a few cents above ceiling to overcharges of more than 100 percent.

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GENERAL FOODS CORP. AND OTHERS FOUND GUILTY OF CORNERING RYE FUTURES MARKET-Washington-A referee for the Department of Agriculture found today the General Foods Corporation of New York, one of its former vice presidents and four members of the Chicago Board of Trade guilty of manipulating the price of rye and rye futures between December 1942 and May 1944.

Jack W. Bain, the referee, recommended to the department's judicial officer, Thomas J. Flavin, that those named in a complaint filed in May 1945, be denied certain trading privileges in the nation's commodity contract market. Mr. Flavin may either uphold, reject or modify the complaint.

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FAO GROUP MAKES WASHINGTON SEAT-Copenhagen-Washington was selected today as the seat of the special commission of the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization preparing detailed plans for a world food board and an international price stabilization plan.

The committee studying the world food board also agreed that the special commission would first report to the FAO's director general, Sir John Boyd Orr, who would then submit its findings to the member governments. A full FAO conference would finally be called to consider the commission's report which would ultimately go to the United Nations' Economic and Social Council.

The commission's scope and operation would be left largely to Sir John, who would also appoint the chairman.

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WHEAT DIVERTED TO INDIA-New Delhi-The British Government has agreed to divert to India three ships carrying about 26,000 tons of Canadian wheat for Britain, it was learned here today.

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NO CIGARETTES OR CANDY BY FRIDAY, UNION AGENT SAYS-All distributors' supplies of cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco and candy in the city will be gone by Friday afternoon as a result of the trucking strike, Milton Holt, business agent for Local 1175, Confectionary and Tobacco Jobbers Employees Union AFL, said last night.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 11 -

RALLY IN GRAINS OUTWEIGHS CONTINUED DROP IN COTTON - The drop in the stock market extended its influence to mark trading in major commodities for another day. Pressure from the security market brought a selling wave in cotton which forced the staple down for a loss of 70 points at Galveston. However, as wheat, corn and rye rallied in late trading, the commodity price level actually advanced fractionally. The Journal of Commerce daily index of 30 sensitive commodities rose to 221.6, 3 fractional points over the previous close.

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AN ANTIDOTE TO INFLATION - Editorial - The severe decline in stock prices may well prove to be, in retrospect, the development that finally laid to rest the threat of a runaway postwar inflation. Just as the advance in commodity prices began to assume the pace of the post-World War I boom, this stock market break should act as a powerful check upon frantic buying both in business and consumer channels, and should give pause to the recent active upbidding of prices for real estate and numerous other goods and services.

The sharp break in stock quotations will cause manufacturers, distributors and consumers alike to take stock of the situation again, and to regard existing prices for many things more critically. They are being forcefully reminded once again that prices can drop as well as rise, and that the decline following a speculative advance is often uncomfortably rapid and severe. It could well be that the more cautious sentiment resulting from what has happened on the stock exchange during the past month will give the coup de grace to the incipient inflationary orgy that was developing from an expanded money supply and temporary shortages of goods.

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AGREEMENT SEEN ON 20¢ FLOUR RISE - Washington - Flour price ceilings are to be raised by 20¢ a hundredweight across the nation, the Department of Agriculture and Office of Price Administration have finally agreed, it was disclosed today.

At the same time, OPA plans to initiate an action to decontrol flour prices completely, but this might not become effective for another 30 days or so, it was learned.

The 20¢ rise in maximum prices, which will apply both east and west of the Rocky Mountains, is being granted to cover three principal cost increases, OPA officials explained: (1) Higher bag costs, (2) the higher cost of producing 72 percent extraction flour, and (3) the higher cost of operating at 85 percent of capacity, as required by the Department of Agriculture.

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GRAIN PRICES SAG IN INITIAL DEALINGS - An accumulation of overnight selling orders, prompted by favorable corn belt weather, reports of further cash wheat offerings to the CCC without confirmation of actual sales and the continued decline in the stock market resulted in sharp initial declines in most grain futures at Chicago and little recuperative ability was apparent during the morning.

The Canadian Wheat Board authorized exporters to offer around 5,000,000 bushels of oats to foreign countries and it was reported that same sales had been made to the United Kingdom.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from - - -
today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.)

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 11 (Cont.) -

HOG MARKET - Salable hog receipts at Chicago of 1,000 head were somewhat above the recent record low average and 800 head were consigned direct to packers. The price structure remained very firm....Western markets received only 6,400 head compared with 35,700 a year ago, making a two day total of 12,900 head compared with 72,200 for the same period last year.

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PRICES DEPRESSED AS STOCKS DECLINE - Business in stocks and grains touched off a sympathetic decline in a fluctuating session on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday. The liquidation overwhelmed a steady trade demand. Opinion on the floor held that the liquidation was caused by nervousness on the part of outside interests. This sentiment was traced back to reports of high-priced inventories of textile firms, the domestic labor situation involving the trucking and the maritime strike among others, and the general uneasiness in financial circles.

The decline in securities was considered a major factor in the recession. Some quarters, however, felt that the statistical position of the staple was strong enough to set up resistance to any sharp fall in other markets. The shortage of available cotton being produced this season, accentuated by the Government's 9,170,000-bale Sept. 1 forecast, was expected to result in an urgent trade demand as soon as consumer demand for higher-priced textiles is ascertained.

* * *

From the Wall Street Journal, Sept. 11 -

QUICK-FROZEN GREEN LIMAS PUTTING SKIDS UNDER DRIED VARIETY - Oxnard, Calif.- Dried limas are on a production skid; quick-frozen green limas are on the ascendancy.

Beans never used to be cut until November. Then they were left in the fields for weeks to dry and bleach in the sun. This summer for the first time they are being hustled up hay loaders and whisked away in trucks to hugh threshing barrels called "viners."

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TRANSIT RISES ALLOWED IN FLORIDA, CALIFORNIA ON CITRUS FRUIT PRICES - Washington - The Office of Price Administration has provided increases in transportation allowance which may be added to ceiling prices of citrus fruits produced and delivered in Florida and California.

The allowances are applicable at present only to the ceiling price of oranges, since oranges are the only fresh citrus fruit still under price control.

The new allowances are designed to provide a better distribution of citrus fruits in producing states. At the most remote points from the producing area, they will increase retail ceilings on citrus fruit in Florida and California about one cent a pound. In more adjacent areas, no change will be made.

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From St. Paul Pioneer Press, September 8 -

MIDWEST PENALIZED-By Alfred D. Stedman-Evidently the Midwest is going to have to take the main punishment for the reimposition of livestock ceilings.

Deserted killing pens at South St. Paul and other Midwest stockyards are a symptom of the trouble to come.

The stream of livestock that had been flowing to market before the CPA ceilings went back on has now, with the reimposition of those ceilings, slowed to the smallest trickle in 30 years.

And even that reduced supply does not stop here to be killed and processed but goes on eastward to meet the hidden demand that represents the black market. The legitimate Midwestern packers who must pay ceiling prices can not compete with eastern buyers who can offer premium prices here and average them down to ceilings with sales in the east at losses which are absorbed later in the black market.

The OPA makes a big fanfare about knocking out the black market, but that keeps right on gobbling up the dwindling beef supply.

Well, how does the penalty for this happen to concentrate on the Midwest?

First of all, that penalty falls upon those whose labor or capital are employed in the business of handling or processing livestock, and particularly cattle since it is beef that is chiefly attracted into the black market.

Also to suffer is the cattle feeding industry of the Midwest.

Successive imposition, removal and re-imposition of cattle ceilings have hit this business between the eyes.

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From The Milwaukee Journal, September 5 -

FEAR RETURN OF DUST BOWL-Denver, Col. (AP)-Farmers who lived through the dust storms of the 1930's see those big, black clouds looming over the horizon again.

Already there have been isolated dust storms in the great plains states this year, and soil conservation service officials warn that the dust bowl can return unless preventive measures are taken.

High priced wheat plus a dry year have brought back the dust bowl threat.

The world-wide demand for grains has produced the "suitcase farmer" on whom the farmers blame most of their troubles.

The "suitcase farmer" buys land and either sends in tenants or moves in to make a "killing" in a year or two. By plowing all his land and breaking sod that should be left fallow, the newcomer can pay for his land with one good crop. A second one is nearly all profit.

If there is a dry year -- as has been the case in some sections this year -- and the wind starts whipping the topsoil through the air, the "suitcase farmer" can pack up and leave with a good return on his investment.

The ones that are hurt by this neglect of soil and water conservation are the farmers who have lived in the area all their lives and plan to stay there.

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From The New Orleans Times-Picayune, September 8 -

41 FAIRS WILL OPEN IN LOUISIANA SHORTLY-(AP)-Baton Rouge, La-Louisiana's annual fairs curtailed or cut out entirely in war years, will resume this fall, Agriculture Commissioner Harry D. Wilson reported, with 30 in parishes or districts and 11 special events including the state fair.

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, September 9 -

LEAT-Editorial-A spokesman for the packing industry spoke carelessly the other day when he attributed the empty pens in the stock yards to "a strike of cattle men."

That is just exactly what it isn't. There have been farmers' strikes at one time or another.

Nothing like that explains recent events in the live stock industry. No organization has commanded its members not to ship animals to market. No pickets are on the roads. The refusal of the farmers to send cattle and hogs to slaughter is in no sense a deliberately concerted action intended to force the packers to pay higher prices or to force the government to permit the packers to pay more. All that has happened is that each farmer has decided for himself that the ceiling prices are lower than he is willing to accept. If that is a strike, then every merchant is on strike who refuses to sell his goods for less than he believes is fair.

What we are witnessing could be described more accurately as a referendum in which the farmers, almost to a man, have pronounced their individual judgment on the wisdom and fairness of the latest attempt at price control. The outstanding thing about the return is its unanimity. All stock farmers, big and little, successful and unsuccessful, in all sections of the country, have reached an identical conclusion, without leadership, organization, or oratory to guide them.

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From The Memphis Commercial Appeal, September 8 -

NEED FOR COTTON IDENTIFICATION STRESSED BY SPINNERS-The need for cotton identification at the source was one of the points stressed most frequently by mill technicians at the Spinner-Breeder conference at Hartsville, S. C., last week.

The identification program is sponsored by the Delta Council and one which aids in the selection of the proper cotton for the specific needs of the mills.

Mrs. Dorothy Lee Black, manager of the council, who attended the Hartsville meeting reports:

"John Oakley, executive secretary of the Mississippi Seed Association, spoke to the Spinner-Breeder Conference on Wednesday. His paper discussed the Mississippi Lint Certification program and touched off one of the lengthiest and liveliest discussions of the entire conference, creating more interest among the spinner representatives than any other subject discussed.

"Co-operators in Delta producers of the state are familiar with the association's program to identify variety lint contained in the bale.

"In answer to a direct question, T. D. Turluck, cotton purchasing department, Monarch Mills, Union, S. C., stated that cotton farmers were at last on the right track in the certification and identification of cotton.

"It's the thing we want."

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From The Boston Herald, September 7 -

GI-EMPLOYED FARMERS-Editorial-This is the way it works. Uncle Sam guarantees the self-employed veteran a net income of \$100 a month for a year. So, out in the farm states a returned GI leases a few acres from his father or somebody else and sets himself up as an independent farmer. If it is a one-crop farm, so much the better, for only in the month that he actually sells his crop need he report any income to the government. That is, if he sells his entire crop for \$1500 in September, he can collect \$100 from Uncle Sam every month in the year except September.

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Farm Digest 1985-46-6

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 12 -

TOBIN ORDER EASES TRUCK TIE-UP-The first signs of relief from the crippling effects of the truck strike appeared last night as several thousand striking New Jersey drivers prepared to return to work this morning and members of the principal striking local here were called to a special meeting this afternoon to consider an employer plea that they resume their jobs pending negotiations for a new contract.

The break in New Jersey tie up, which had cut off truck movements into the metropolitan area from the south and west, came after Daniel J. Tobin president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL, had instructed all union drivers in New York and New Jersey to live up to their contracts and ignore anyone who attempted to stop them.

City officials reported that Mr. Tobin's telegram had brought about an immediate resumption in the movement of building materials and predicted that it would assist in the orderly transportation of perishable food and other essentials by drivers not involved in the eleven-day-old strike, many of whom had been kept off the streets by roving bands of pickets.

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BOARD AGAIN BARS SEA WAGE RISE-Washington-The National Wage Stabilization Board by a vote of 4 to 2, with labor dissenting, announced tonight that it had reaffirmed throughout its order of Aug. 23 refusing to two American Federation of Labor seamen's unions wage increases regarded as out of line with the stabilization policy.

W. Willard Wirtz, chairman of the WSB, said at a press conference that there was no appeal from the board's decision. A motion made by the AFL representative, Walter Mason, to refer the case to Stabilization Director John R. Steelman was defeated.

As to the possibility of President Truman now intervening, Mr. Wirtz said that it was a question of the President's authority under Executive Orders 9250 and 9697, covering the stabilization program, in which he delegated authority for the handling of stabilization programs. He had no comments as to how the strike might be ended.

Despite Mr. Wirtz' statement that there was no appeal from the board's decision, it was learned that the board would confer tomorrow morning with Stabilization Director Steelman and that the White House decision would be made within twenty-four hours.

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MARITIME UN UNIONS PREPARED TO CARRY ON WAGE FIGHT-The Wage Stabilization Board's decision to stand by its ruling denying wage rises to American Federation of Labor seamen will intensify the nation-wide sea strike and may result in spreading it to other industries, spokesmen for shipping declared last night as the strike went through its seventh day.

(Turn to page 2 for other items
in today's N.Y. Times.)

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Farm Digest 2005-46

From The New York Times, Sept. 12 -

4 MORE PLANTS CLOSE HERE; LAY OFFS RISE, FOOD SCARCER-Four more manufacturing concerns closed their doors yesterday for the duration of the truck strike and three factories announced that they would close tomorrow as concerns in other lines reduced operations and added hundreds of workers to the several thousand made idle by the truck and ship walkouts. Food supplies continued to dwindle and Chester A. Halman, marketing officer of the United States Department of Agriculture said in a marketing report survey that the distribution of many types "is in a very critical state."

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'TOUGH' BUTCHERS BAR OPA'S AGENTS-Black marketers "got tough" yesterday as the meat famine touched a growing number of butcher shops and dinner tables throughout the nation.

In New York, where agents of the Office of Price Administration had encountered little difficulty the day before in going behind retail counters and checking ice box contents, they found the way barred yesterday by determined butchers.

Although two-thirds of the city's butcher shops were closed, compared to little more than half on Tuesday, many of the dealers who had meat in their display cases refused to sell to the OPA agents. The butchers insisted that the meat already had been ordered by telephone and was waiting to be picked up by regular customers.

The Federal men had no recourse in many cases except to wait on the sidewalks and accost housewives as they left suspect shops with bundles.

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STRIKE PERILS COAST FRUIT-San Francisco-Peach and tomato growers of northern California, with an estimated \$35,000,000 worth of crops at stake, appealed to State and Federal officials today for aid as teamsters in part of northern California stopped hauling produce to canneries.

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AFRICAN FARMERS ANGRY-Pretoria-Speakers at the annual congress of the Transvaal Agricultural Union here urged the Government today to restrict the activities of Indian traders in South Africa in retaliation for India's embargo on exports to this country. Farmers here are hard hit by the scarcity of gunny bags for grain and potato crops.

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From New York Herald Tribune, Sept. 12 -

NATION FACES MEAT FAMINE FOR 6 WEEKS-Meat will vanish from the nation dinner tables by next week according to predictions from the industry made yesterday both here and in major packing centers of the country. Livestock shipments are at record lows for Sept., in New York, Kansas City and Chicago. Both Federal and private observers said yesterday that the nation cannot hope for betterment of conditions for from six weeks to two months--if then. Added to this cheerless food news was the prediction yesterday by Major William O'Dwyer and Henry H. Rathbun, president of the Dairymen's League Co-operative Association, that New York City faces the possibility this fall and winter of a serious milk shortage. Both laid the cause to out-of-state buyers tempting New York farmers with high premiums.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 12 -

UPTURN IN STOCKS REFLECTED IN COTTON GAINS; GRAINS UP - Major commodity markets moved moderately higher yesterday. As the drop in the stock market was checked for the first time in a week, raw cotton recovered substantially, again climbing above the 36¢ mark. Grains averaged higher and the new flour ceiling, 20¢ above the last maximum, accounted for most of the gain in foods. Butter advanced; as the prolonged strike is cutting into available supplies. As a result, The Journal of Commerce daily index of 30 sensitive commodities rose to 222.5, the best level since the meat rollback last week.

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WHEAT AGAIN PACES DECLINE IN GRAINS - Grains were again under pressure at Chicago yesterday morning, with wheat declining as much as 1-1/2¢ to 3¢ before buying by mills brought about a partial recovery.

Selling of wheat was stimulated by the further increase in the Government production estimate and the continued absence of any confirmation of CCC purchases of the cash article at interior points, although it was expected that these would materialize within the near future.

The drop in the corn crop estimate had no appreciable effect upon corn futures as a record outturn was still indicated and lower prices reflected a letup in the demand from feeders and industries. Favorable weather conditions in the corn belt were also a factor.

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STRIKE DOMINATES DAIRY MARKETS - Increasing influence on butter receipt and distribution is being exerted by continuing truckers' strike. Over-all supply picture rules extremely short and market position is very firm with prices averaging higher again.

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SHORTAGE OF RAWS HALTS PHILA. PLANT - Featuring yesterday's sugar market developments was announcement of shutting down of Franklin Sugar Refining Co.'s plant in Philadelphia, following an earlier plant close-down by National here.

William J. Gilligan, manager of the Franklin unit, said: "We have melted all the raw sugar at our refinery. Consequently we are forced to start this afternoon to reduce our working forces because the maritime strike has prevented our receiving raw sugar supplies now on ships in harbor at Philadelphia."

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FERTILIZER LOANS MAY HIT U. S. CROPS - Chicago - Any delay next spring in the return of nitrogen-bearing fertilizer materials now being borrowed by the Government from our domestic supply and shipped abroad to occupied countries may seriously curtail domestic fertilizer supplies for spring planted crops, F. S. Lodge of the National Fertilizer Association warned yesterday.

Explaining that the War Department has been authorized to ship to occupied countries two-thirds of the ammonium nitrate to be available from all sources during last month and this, with a like amount to be returned from the production of the reactivated Government plants by the end of April; Lodge emphasized that April shipment is late for materials to be used in manufacturing fertilizer for spring planted crops. He said that only if the borrowed chemicals are returned promptly will supplies be sufficient for requirements next spring.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.)

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 12 (Cont.) -

COTTON ABOVE 36¢ ON BRITISH DEMAND - Opposing factors led to fluctuations in a wide range during trading on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday. A firmer stock market, a favorable weekly weather report, and some price fixing for Britain were considered the major factors. The final range was up 15 to 63 points.

Despite the beginning of heavier hedging in the current crop, the steadiness in securities set the tone of the day early in the session. Some quarters felt that with this sympathetic nervousness eliminated, prices would move up sharply, considering the strong statistical position of the staple.

* * *

From the Wall Street Journal, Sept. 12 -

PRICE DECONTROL BOARD WILL MEET NEXT WEEK - Washington - The three members of the Price Decontrol Board will reconvene sometime between September 15 and 18 to learn the nature of decontrol petitions filed with the OPA and to review the daily products price situation, a spokesman said yesterday. The Board has decided to meet about every two weeks during the interval in which it has no decontrol petitions to act upon.

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DROUGHT IN EASTERN AUSTRALIA CALLED WORST IN A CENTURY - Sydney - The Brisbane Courier Mail said yesterday that a prolonged drought in eastern Australia, described as the worst in a century, had resulted in heavy losses to both crops and livestock. An area of approximately 500,000 square miles, including some of the best grazing, dairying and wheat-producing country in New South Wales and Queensland, is affected. Sheep were reported dying by thousands. In Queensland, parts of which have been affected by drought for three years, some stock was being saved by hand feeding. The state's sheep population has declined approximately 6.5 million since 1944.

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CANADIAN EXPORT OATS SALES - Estimated sales of Canadian oats to the United Kingdom yesterday of 1.5 million bushels boosted takings by the United Kingdom for the past two days to approximately 3.5 million bushels. The Canadian Wheat Board authorized exporters to offer up to 5 million bushels of Canadian oats for shipment in September and early October.

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SHORTAGE OF BOX CARS, BAGS TO AFFECT FLOUR SUPPLY - Chicago - Flour supplies may be low in some parts of the nation for a while this fall because of a lack of bags and box cars, not wheat, Philip W. Pillsbury, president of the Pillsbury Mills told shareholders.

"Right now there are just not enough box cars to move this year's bumper wheat crop," he said. "Some mills are running only from day to day, as wheat trickles in. After it is ground, millers are having difficulty getting bags to pack the flour in box cars to ship it to bakers and grocers."

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- 5 -

From Chicago Journal of Commerce, September 10 -

MEAT 'FAMINE' DAY-Editorial-Today price ceilings are back on meat in the retail shops. That is, the legal prices will be posted above empty cases and butchers, after perhaps a brief flurry of business, will stand about most of the day offering to sell poultry, eggs, pigs' tails and sausage. The popular cuts of beef and pork that were in abundance during the OPA holiday won't be available after the first few customers have gone.

The meat that flooded the markets for two months over and above the rate of consumption is stored. A good deal of it is in the homes of the fortunate who possess freezing facilities and whose purses enabled them to stock up for the "famine" now at hand. The rush to prepare against the return of price ceilings undoubtedly kept meat prices unnaturally high during those two months. Consumers correctly expected that the Price Decontrol Board would reimpose ceilings and bought more than was necessary for current needs.

The board's decision was mistake No. 1. Secretary of Agriculture Anderson committed mistake No. 2 when he fixed livestock ceiling prices too low to accomplish the purpose of keeping beef and pork moving to the stockyards. Now the reports from Washington have it that OPA officials are considering making mistake No. 3 -- a return to rationing.

Rationing could be justified only if the livestock population were at a dangerously low point and feed supplies were scarce. Neither of these conditions exists.

Once again we are to have price ceilings on nonexistent things. That situation will continue until the people in their impatience with the regulated economy demand that production be encouraged and unnecessary restrictions be abandoned for good.

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From The Davenport (Ia) Democrat and Leader, September 9 -

IOWA SWINE MARKET SHOWS IMPROVEMENT-Ames, Ia-When the nation's hog market gets back on a freely competitive basis, Iowa farmers will want to shop around for the best outlet for their hogs.

That is indicated by Sam H. Thompson, Iowa State College farm economist, after a study of trends in the hog marketing picture. In the current issue of Iowa Farm Science, the college magazine, Thompson states that interior Iowa hog markets were improving relative to Chicago in the period immediately preceding the war. The Sioux City market also was improving relative to Chicago.

Whether this trend of closing the spread difference between interior Iowa markets and Chicago will continue after price ceilings are removed, will be important to hog raisers. Thompson points out that daily prices on the interior markets and at Sioux City often acted independently of Chicago prices. And the spread between prices varied according to the season of the year and the type of hogs marketed during that season.

Thompson lists two main reasons for the improvement in Iowa markets compared to Chicago in the period preceding the war. He says that perhaps the most important was the increased slaughter in the northwestern section of the corn belt. More interior packing plants were established, and those that had been established for some time expanded their facilities. The resulting increase in demand in competition for hogs appears to have raised hog prices at Iowa packing plants as well as at the Sioux City public markets.

A second cause of the prewar narrowing of price differentials between Chicago and Iowa markets was the growing population on the west coast. The demand for hogs by west coast packers tended to push interior prices closer to Chicago.

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From St. Paul Pioneer Press, September 9 -

RECORD WHEAT CROP SEEN FOR CANADA--Winnipeg--(MANA)--Western Canada will harvest a wheat crop of 430,500,000 bushels in 1946 as compared with 282,000,000 bushels a year ago and the 10-year average of 347,000,000 bushels. The average will be 17.1 bushels per acre as compared with about 15 bushels per acre for the 10-year average, a survey reveals.

Many factors combined to take a toll of the crop, with losses from saw fly activity alone estimated of, at least, 25 million bushels.

Manitoba's wheat crop is placed at 60,300,000 bushels, or an average yield of 21.3 bushels per acre. This compares with 40,000,000 bushels harvested in 1945 and the 1938-1942, five-year average of 56,340,000 bushels.

Saskatchewan's wheat crop is forecast at 224,000,000 bushels, or an average yield of 15.1 bushels per acre. A year ago, Saskatchewan harvested 162,000,000 bushels of wheat and her five-year (1938-1942) average is 225,560,000 bushels.

Alberta is expected to produce 146,200,000 bushels as compared with 80,000,000 bushels in 1945. The average yield this year is estimated at 19.5 bushels per acre and the five-year (1938-1942) yield averaged 151,860,000 bushels.

There will be a wide variation in grades this year, with Nos. 2 and 3 Northern predominating. Saskatchewan and Alberta will show a greater percentage of low-grade wheat than Manitoba, as a result of frost damage in these two provinces during July and again recently.

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From Texas Farming and Citriculture, August, 1946

WAR-DEVELOPED INSECTICIDES--How the entire problem of citrus pest control is in the process of being "overhauled" and what can be expected of new herbicides, including 2,4-D, were explained by representatives of the University of California to members of the Lemon Men's Club at a recent meeting in Los Angeles.

Declaring that the whole field of pest control has been in need of much improvement for many years, Dr. A. M. Boyce, professor of entomology at the citrus experiment station, Riverside, said that a large number of new chemical compounds, which were developed during the war, offer considerable promise in solving this problem. Facilities are being enlarged for testing these materials at the station, new investigators are being added to the staff and research is going forward at an unprecedented pace.

In the field of herbicides, Dr. W. W. Robbins, professor of botany at the college of agriculture, Davis, said he considers 2,4-D the finest weed killer that has been developed in many years. However, he cautioned growers to exercise care in using it where there is a possibility of it drifting onto adjoining fields or getting into irrigation water. Certain plants are very easily killed by 2,4-D and careless applications of the material may cause serious damage. Little is known about the varieties of plants which are affected by it, but studies are now being made at Davis to obtain that information. There may also be a harmful residue problem which should be taken into consideration if planning is anticipated within a relatively short time after dusting weeds with 2,4-D.

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From San Francisco Chronicle, September 7 -

GOLD IN FARM LANDS--Editorial--The trouble with gold dredging as usually practiced, where it involves agricultural ground, is that for a single profit the land is ruined forever and a day. As an extreme example we can imagine the present condition of California if placer gold had lain in all its farm lands and dredgers had extracted it. Turning out wealth each year would not now exist.

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SEP 17 1946

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 4094. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 13 -

TRUCK UNION, OWNERS OPEN TALKS--With trucks operating under union contracts moving without interference in this city and 10,000 idle drivers back at work in New Jersey, negotiations for a settlement of the paralyzing truck strike here got under way last night at City Hall for the first time since 15,000 general truck drivers quit work Sept. 1.

Mayor O'Dwyer called the City Hall wage conference after Local 807 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL, had withdrawn its refusal to negotiate jointly with the two other striking locals, 282 and 816, and had empowered the union's wage scale committee to bargain with the truck owners subject to ratification of any proposed agreement by the membership. All three locals and the employers were represented at the Mayor's meeting.

There was no indication that a new wage offer had been put forward by the truck owners or that any progress toward a settlement had been made.

The resumption of negotiations was the climax of a day that saw a marked easing in the impact of the strike that has cut deeply into the city's food supply and forced widespread industrial curtailment. However, the peril to trade and food remained acute as 4,000 members of Local 807, in a tumultuous meeting at Manhattan Center, unanimously rejected an employer proposal that they go back to work with the understanding that any wage increases finally agreed upon would be made retroactive.

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STEELMAN APPROVES SEA PAY RISE, EARLY END OF WALKOUT EXPECTED--Washington--The White House today made public a plan that is expected to end the strike of two American Federation of Labor unions in the shipping industry, but settlement of the threatened strike by members of the Congress of Industrial Organizations may be somewhat delayed.

The plan was an amendment of wage stabilization regulations permitting the Maritime Commission to pay the wage scale set by private ship operators. These operators have agreements with the Sailors Union of the Pacific and the Seafarers International Union both AFL. Since these agreements have, for the most part, already been approved by the Wage Stabilization Board, and since the operators are willing to absorb increases above these already approved, the change in stabilization regulations was written to cover the situation.

In effect the action taken today by John R. Steelman, stabilization director, means that the West and East Coast sailors of the AFL will be paid respectively \$5 and \$10 more than the contract for a wage increase of \$17.50 negotiated on June 14 last by the CIO seamen.

It is now expected that the AFL contracts will be put into effect soon but the National Maritime Union, CIO on the East and Gulf Coasts is expected to press for similar concessions, probably \$10 a month more than it received in June, equaling the SIU wage increase of \$27.50 a month.

(Turn to page 2 for other items
in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, Sept. 13 -

FOOD AND DRUG DELIVERIES UP-Food and medicines moved more freely in the metropolitan area yesterday as non-striking truckmen resumed work under their contracts and two of the three striking locals of the teamsters union agreed to expedite shipment of food and drugs. The volume of food moved was far from normal, however, and was not large enough to end the chaotic conditions in its distribution.

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RATIONING ASKED FOR RESTAURANTS-Rationing of meat for restaurants was demanded yesterday by spokesmen for the city's principal consumer groups as housewife tempers flared over the relative abundance of roasts and chops in public eating places while most homes faced a weekend of little or no meat.

Although hotel and restaurant men complained that they were caught in the same squeeze as housewives because livestock growers have reduced their shipments to market, New Yorkers who dined out had little or no difficulty getting meat.

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FAO GROUP PRESSES NEED FOR NITROGEN-Copenhagen-The agricultural Committee of the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization urged today the immediate return of all nitrogen plants in Germany and Japan to maximum operation as an effective way of increasing world food production.

In final meetings the committee approved a lengthy report strongly emphasizing the need for improving the soil in backward countries through higher output and the greater use of chemical fertilizers. The report recommended that the FAO approach the "appropriate authorities" in both Germany and Japan with the request that the nitrogen plants be put back into operation "for as long as the world shortage of nitrogen exists."

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CITY LOSES IN COURT ON MILK DISTRIBUTION-White Plains, N.Y.-A temporary injunction restraining New York City from dictating the amounts of milk that six major distributors may deliver in Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk Counties and in eight near by New Jersey counties was granted here today by Supreme Court Justice Charles W. U. Sneed.

Also affected by the dictation, according to the distributors, were other communities in this State, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Vermont, which could receive only the milk that New York City did not demand. The suit was brought by Westchester, with Nassau collaborating and the Connecticut milk administrator urging that the city be curbed. The distributors, although co-defendants, asked for the injunction.

The temporary injunction was granted pending trial of the suit for a permanent order. A preliminary stay had been in effect on week.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 13 -

ANDERSON DEFENDS HISTORICAL BASIS FOR DISTILLERS' GRAIN - Washington - Defending his allocation of grain to beverage alcohol distillers for September on an historical basis, Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson today stated in an affidavit presented in Federal District Court here that the use of capacity as the sole basis for allocation is "inequitable."

The Secretary's affidavit was the first move on the part of the Government to have the court dismiss the motion of Publicker Industries, Inc., of Philadelphia for an injunction restraining the secretary from allocating grain to distillers on an historical basis.

The secretary's attitude for the first time disclosed the formula that Mr. Anderson devised to allocate grain for September to the beverage alcohol distilling industry. It denied that the USDA gave increased allotments to old line companies on a purely historical basis and described Mr. Anderson's own press release, which announced the September allocation as "unfortunately worded."

In outlining to the court in his affidavit the method by which he arrived at an allocation formula, Mr. Anderson disclosed that first he worked out a formula and then found that the formula called for the allocation of 2,942,294 bushels of grain to distillers for September.

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HEDGES DEPRESS COTTON PRICES SLIGHTLY - Increased hedging depressed prices slightly in an otherwise featureless session on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday. Steadiness in the stock market, high monthly rates of domestic consumption of the saaple, and favorable weather in the belt were other factors.

The major factor on opening call was the New York Cotton Exchange estimate of 880,000 bales consumed by domestic mills during August, compared with only 730,000 in July and 740,000 in August a year ago. The daily rate was about 40,000 bales for the month, compared with only 33,200 in July and 32,200 in August a year ago.

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DEFERRED WHEAT CONTRACTS WEAK - Selling by a large commission house with Eastern connections forced declines of 1-3/4¢ in deferred wheat deliveries up to noon at Chicago yesterday, but the nearby January contract held at the previous closing level aided by mill and local support.

Some support for January wheat appeared to have been attracted by reports that the CCC had purchased wheat in Kansas City the previous day at \$1.94 for No. 2 hard winter, although confirmation by the Government agency had not yet been received.

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UK ARGENTINE TRADE SEEN ON MONTH TO MONTH BASIS - London - With London morning newspapers describing the Anglo-Argentine economic talks as having broken down or being on the verge of collapse, an informed Argentine source said today that if and when their failure was confirmed a month to month agreement might be reached for the continued import here of Argentine meat and the export of British products to Argentina.

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(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.)

Fam Digest 2015-46

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 13 (Cont.) -

STRIKES INFLUENCING DAIRY MARKETS - Butter market situation continues extremely firm with supplies far short of normal and a very broad potential demand. The situation locally is being increasingly affected by truckers' and maritime strikes.

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SEE FANCY CORN DELIVERY LOWER - Reports from the Midwest yesterday indicated that the pack outlook for fancy corn has shown progressive decline, with indications that canner deliveries on top qualities will be much smaller than had been looked for earlier....

Canners are not shipping the new pack as yet, and traders are hopeful that favorable weather during the late season may change the situation for the better.

Tomato blight has cut substantially into the juice pack outlook, and the recent decontrol of canned soups will channel considerable tonnage into soup, rather than juice, it is indicated.

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From the Wall Street Journal, Sept. 13 -

PDB CALLS FOR STUDY OF RISING BUTTER, CHEESE PRICES - Washington - Disturbed by rising butter and cheese prices, the Decontrol Board called for evidence regarding possible recontrol of dairy prices. The Board issued a formal notice calling for an explanation of the increases to be considered at a board meeting here September 18.

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EUROPEAN BUYERS LEAD DOMINION WOOL BIDDING - London - Auctions of Dominion wool was resumed here yesterday after a lapse of more than seven years with the offering of 36,070 bales, stimulating keen competition. The offering was mostly Australian greasy merinos of topmaking sorts. European buyers were the leading bidders and a high price of 32d per pound was paid for one lot. Subsequent bidding was steady and the first 100 lots cleared at prices up to recent Australian auction levels.

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MOST CATTLE SHIPMENTS, STILL LIGHT, GOING EAST - Chicago - Chicago, the nation's largest meat packing center, has become a whistle stop for cattle on their way from ranges and farms to the East--Boston, New York, Philadelphia.

One explanation of the eastward movement, which reverses the situation existing during free markets, was the possibility of a developing black market in livestock, observers said. Another possible explanation, they said, was that Government meat graders might be more lenient in the East. One expert, who would not permit use of his name, said, "One of the easiest ways to beat this meat situation is to get a good Government grader in your plant."

* * *

From St. Paul Pioneer Press, September 7 -

TENURE OF SECRETARY ANDERSON-Editorial-Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson has had plenty of official headaches. But too great weight need not be given to any surmise that he might yield to antipathy of organized labor toward his price policies and leave the cabinet.

Assuming President Truman retains his normal degree of political acumen, the president is not likely to allow labor to dictate the representation of farmers in his cabinet, any more than he would permit organized agriculture to dictate the representation of labor in his cabinet. That wouldn't be good politics or good anything.

As for Secretary Anderson's assertion of authority on food prices, in that he is acting clearly in line with the legislative direction, not of just the farm bloc, but of Congress. Congress always and justifiably has felt that administration of food regulations should be placed in the branch of government, namely the Department of Agriculture, which is equipped with the experience, information and trained personnel to do the job. Long after the OPA theorists have been relieved of duty, that department will still be in creditable public service at the same old stand.

Nevertheless, it is true, that Secretary Anderson's own official position is complicated by his responsibilities to the president and Congress, whose policies and directions as to OPA are at odds.

However, the real threat to Anderson's tenure is not his price policies which, for understanding of the price effects on production and consumer supplies of food stand out in favorable contrast to those of OPA, but his personal health.

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From The Atlanta Constitution, September 10 -

MEAT CONTROL ON TRIAL-Editorial-It is with a skepticism born of sad experience that the nation watches the reimposition of ceilings on retail meat prices.

Already are being voiced warnings that supplies in the weeks ahead will be at an all-time low, that most butcher shops will have nothing to offer at any price.

The impending shortages will be attributable in no small part, of course, to Congress' inexcusable bungling of the OPA extension bill. The lapse of all efforts at price control, occasioned by congressional refusal to face the issue in time, has led to a glutted market in recent weeks. Livestock flowed into the nation's yards in unprecedented quantities during the period the lid was lifted. Cattle and hogs which had been held for months pending abandonment of price controls reached the slaughter houses in an unleashed flood.

But apart from the shortage occasioned by the badly handled lapse of OPA, the return to meat ceilings is still complicated by the threat of widespread black market operations. There is no reason to believe there has been any widespread reform of the racketeers who carried on these operations before. And there is but little reason to hope that OPA investigators will prove any abler to cope with them than previously.

Meanwhile, a wary public is watching developments.

If it is proven that meat can be kept under ceilings in established and lawful channels, so much the better.

But if wide-scale, black-market operations are resumed, and OPA policing proves ineffective, then the Decontrol Board should move at once to end the farce.

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From The Milwaukee Journal, September 9 -

CONTROLS, BUT NO MEAT-Editorial-OPA controls over meat prices will be resumed Tuesday. They will be resumed with little meat on hand by packers or butchers and with little in immediate sight. The consumer may as well accept the fact that, for some time to come, the meat supply will be extremely short.

The reason for this situation is simple -- growers of livestock, knowing that controls were coming, sent everything available to market in the last few weeks in order to get high prices. It will take a little time before new stock begins moving to market.

The consumer's one hope at this time -- and it is a forlorn hope -- is that, when new stock is ready, it will move nearly 100% into legitimate channels. His one hope is that the black market in meat can this time be defeated. It is a forlorn hope for two reasons. The first is that supplies just cannot be really plentiful for months to come. The second is that, if as many as 10% of buyers are willing to go into illegitimate markets, the other 90% cannot prevent black market operations unless the OPA proves much more aggressive and much more powerful than it was in the past.

The good citizen will accept the situation as it is. He will refuse resolutely to buy meat from any but his regular supplier, even though this may mean going without meat at all one or more days a week. If enough buyers take this position for the first few weeks of control, the black market will not again develop. Resumption of the controls may or may not have been wise. The point is that they have been resumed. The one salvation now is to make them work, if that is at all possible.

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From The Farmer, September 7 -

MORE CONFUSION FOR STOCKMEN-Editorial-The new livestock price ceilings are a disappointment to producers who during the two-month period of "free markets" learned that there are plenty of buyers at prices higher than OPA ceilings. The new ceilings are higher than those in effect on June 30, but they are about \$2.25 less a hundred pounds for cattle, \$5.50 less a hundred for hogs, and \$2.20 less a hundred for lambs than prices paid on the day they were announced and much less than the top prices paid during the OPA holiday.

The new ceiling prices may stimulate production more than the old ceiling prices, but much depends on the future price of feed grains which are not under control. It may be more profitable to sell corn and feed grains than to raise livestock, at least until a grain surplus forces down feed prices. The meat industry is faced now with the same kind of problem that bedeviled the butter industry prior to June 30 when there was a ceiling on butter and no ceiling on cream. We now have price control on animals, but none on the grain they consume.

An old friend who is one of Minnesota's most experienced and well-informed cattle feeders, lamenting the reimposition of ceilings, said to us last week: "Some of the younger feeders around here are asking me what to do. I can't tell them anything. As a matter of fact, I don't know myself what I shall do tomorrow!"

Clapping the ceilings back on leaves stockmen floundering in the dark and it probably means long lines of consumers besieging empty meat markets next spring and summer. Those answerable for this situation ought not to be sleeping well of nights these days. When the meat shortage materializes, they will be pelted from all sides.

When Congress revised the price-control law, it expressed the pious hope that the return to a peacetime economy would be hastened. That the new setup will do nothing of the sort is indicated by the recontrol of meats and restoration of subsidies. What we will have is more confusion.

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SEP 18 1946

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From New York Times, Sept. 16 -

TRUCK STRIKE LEADERS BACK BIG CONCERNS' WAGE OFFER-Representatives of 15,000 striking truck drivers agreed unanimously last night to recommend that their members return to work under individual agreements providing \$7.40 a week more pay for four hours less work. These terms have already been offered by two large employers, acting separately from the main body of truck operators.

The proposal will be put before the membership of Local 807 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL, largest of the three striking locals at a meeting at 1 p.m. tomorrow. Acceptance of the plan would clear the way for large scale resumption of deliveries Wednesday morning.

The decision to recommend the signing of separate contracts was reached by the union leaders after the six man committee of prominent citizens appointed by Mayor O'Dwyer to assist him in his efforts to end the paralyzing tie up had abandoned hope of effecting an over all settlement between the strikers and the committee representing the major trucking associations.

The big question mark in the outlook for relief for a supply starved city was whether the members of Local 807, who have consistently ignored the advice of their leaders since the strike began Sept. 1, would go along with the "divide and conquer" strategy. At a tumultuous meeting last Thursday in Manhattan Center, 4,000 rank-and-file strikers voted not to authorize the signing of any separate agreements even on the basis of the union's original wage demands.

City and union officials were hopeful, however, that this position would be reversed at tomorrow's meeting.

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SHIP PARLEY IS BROKEN OFF-Amid charges of bad faith and a display of apparently irreconcilable differences, day-long efforts to end the nation's costly maritime strike collapsed last night and striking Congress of Industrial Organizations seamen promised immediate intensification of the walkout for today.

Joseph Curran, leader of the National Maritime Union and cochairman of the negotiating unit of the Committee for Maritime Unity, led his colleagues out of a conference with Frank J. Taylor and a group of operators and agents soon after 6pm.

The nation's strike committee sent out a call for men and announced that the "longest picket line in the maritime history of the New York waterfront" would begin patrolling at the city's piers long before dawn this morning.

Angered by the union's withdrawal of the essential security watches from strike bound ships, the operating committee refused to hear union proposals until these watches were placed aboard again. They warned that millions of dollars in shipping were endangered.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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MEAT CONTROL-Editorial-When a union calls for the end of price control that is news of the "man bites dog," variety. The AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America are reported to have asked President Truman to demand that Congress eliminate all price controls except for rents. The reason for this position, despite the fact that organized labor has been strong in its demands for strong price control, is easy to understand.

To the members of this union the charge that price control adversely affects production is not an abstract theory. They see it supported by the thousands of packing house workers who are being laid off because slaughtering had declined sharply. Animals slaughtered for the black market do not provide jobs for these workers, since different channels of distribution are used. Since price control was reimposed the CIO United Packinghouse Workers of America have reported that one third of their 30,000 workers in Chicago are out of work. Similar layoffs are reported by the AFL union. Here the desire for holding down living costs is directly in conflict with the opportunity to make a living. Naturally, these workers feel that the latter is more important.

It is improbable that this defection from organized labor's solid front in favor of rigid price control will spread to other groups of workers in the immediate future.

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NEXT TIME A TRUCE FIRST-Editorial-New York City is now beginning the third week of its truck strike and, in the sense that all such nightmares must end sometime, we are one day closer to a settlement of it than yesterday. Mayor O'Dwyer, his citizens' committee of mediation, and the union and management representatives seeking a solution have put in some long hours at City Hall since they began their sessions Friday. It is impossible to say certainly whether any solution, such as that providing for separate agreements covering some employers, would win ratification of the membership of Local 807, largest of the striking unions. Such a proposal seems reasonable and just; the innocent bystanders has already suffered enough in this strike against the public. But a prophet would be bold indeed who attempted to foretell the outcome of a meeting where rank and file seem to be as likely to disagree with their own leaders as with management.

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BROKERS ARE COOL TO GRANARY PLAN-Chicago-Announcement of a new ceiling price on 72 percent extraction flour brought in the anticipated big demand from consuming interests last week, but had relatively little effect as a price making influence, mills apparently having obtained a good reserve of cash wheat previously.

The Government was able to purchase 2,000,000 bushels of cash wheat in the Southwest during the week at a price only slightly in excess of the ceiling price in effect on June 30, which brokers contend shows that wheat is not short in supply, as certified by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson.

Brokers do not take kindly to the suggestion made by the United Nations Foreign Agricultural Organization that the ever normal granary program be applied to the entire world, regarding it as a measure designed to give deficit producing countries such as England and many continental European countries grain and other foods at a low price at the expense of the farmers in surplus production areas.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 16 -

TAFT SEES THREAT IN MEAT CONTROL - Washington - Asserting that the Price Decontrol Board made a "big mistake" in recontrolling meat prices, Senator Robert A. Taft (Rep., Ohio) today predicted that Congressional dissatisfaction with the Administration's handling of the meat situation might result in the complete termination of the price control program early next spring.

Returning to Washington for a few days, Senator Taft was critical of the Administration's approach to the economic problems confronting the nation.

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COTTON PRICES RISE IN SHORT SESSION - Continued strong trade demand met a scarcity of offerings in a thin and inactive session on the New York Cotton Exchange on Saturday. Final prices were up 10 to 28 points, although over the week losses ranged from 18 to 90 points.

The strength of near positions was attributed to steady price fixing. Mills appeared to expect large textile sales next week when the revised ceilings will include new labor costs as approved by the OPA. Such textile movements, it was believed, would reduce accumulated inventories and lead to raw cotton replacement orders.

External factors, such as irregularities or weakness in securities, were absent on Saturday. The first statistical position of cotton, with a short supply and an increased consumption rate, produced an optimistic outlook on the floor of the Exchange.

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GRAIN FUTURES DIP IN LIGHT TRADING - Week-end evening-up caused fractional setbacks in grain futures on Saturday, but the volume was light in all pits and prices moved within a narrow range during most of the short session.

A firmer cash market and unseasonably cool weather in the corn belt exerted a strengthening influence on that cereal early in the day, but selling followed reports of bookings to-arrive of around 115,000 bushels and advances were soon erased.

Announcement by the CCC that it had purchased 2,527,000 bushels in the Southwest on Wednesday and Thursday, and 100,000 bushels at Minneapolis on Friday, was viewed as bearish owing to the fact that the quantities involved were insignificant in relation to needs of that agency for export and the comparatively low purchase price reported. Market observers pointed out that the CCC appeared to be basing its buying price at the lowest offer submitted and rejecting anything above that level.

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NEW VITAMIN FACTOR - A new vitamin factor, isolated from soybean oil, is expected to find wide use as a food preservative, according to Dr. Max H. Stern of Distillation Products, Inc., Rochester, N. Y.

Called Delta Tocopherol, the substance is an effective antioxidant for vitamins and fats. This indicates its value in preventing deterioration of lard and other shortenings, explained Dr. Stern.

It is one of a group of compounds, known to chemists as Tocopherols, which collectively form the vitamin E complex. The new vitamin E factor is also known to be present in peanut and cottonseed oils and wheat germ, Stern said.

From the Wall Street Journal, Sept. 16 -

LIVESTOCK FEED MAKERS SEEK BUYERS - Chicago - Customers are no longer beating a path to the door of the livestock feed manufacturers. Able to meet only a fraction of demand a few months ago, feed men now have more than they can sell.

Last spring feed shortages were so acute they forced farmers to cut down livestock and poultry numbers. This was topped off by the heavy liquidation in farm animals during July and August. Faced with extreme uncertainty and lured by high prices, farmers sold livestock and poultry rather than gamble on what would happen to prices if OPA returned.

So now, although the ingredients that go into feeds are plentiful, the feed manufacturing industry will probably turn out 15% less in the year beginning October 1 than it did in the preceding 12 months.

The American Feed Manufacturers Association estimates that by next January, there will be 10% fewer hens and pullets than a year previous; 5% fewer dairy cows. It thinks the number of pigs farrowed this fall will be down at least 20%.

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DAIRIES ON TRIAL - Milk, butter, cheese and other dairy products have not been under price regulation since June 30, when the OPA temporarily passed from the American scene. The Decontrol Board will meet in Washington Wednesday, however, to decide whether this parole from control should be ended.

Looking back over their two-and-a-half months of price free operation, dairy men are ready to cite these accomplishments: (1) The transition from a regulated to a free economy was made smoothly. (2) Ability of the industry to prevent run-away prices was shown. (3) Shortages and black markets in dairy products, particularly butter, were eliminated. Under price control, butter had been almost non-existent.

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RECONTROL OF DAIRY PRODUCTS MAY RESULT FROM RISING PRICES FOR BUTTER AND CHEESE - Washington - Butter may grease the skids to slide dairy products back under price ceilings. That's the belief of Federal agricultural authorities who are keeping wary eyes on the Decontrol Board's demand for an "explanation" of recent price advances in butter and cheese, to be aired at a hearing Wednesday.

Dairy interests here now fear that their price-sensitive stepchild, butter, may be the cause of a fall from grace for the whole industry. When butter prices rise, they carry all other milk products along the upward trail. That's because of the Government's own well-established policy of tying fluid milk prices to butter quotations.

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INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER CO. announced an agreement whereby, starting November 1, it will take over exclusive selling rights of the "Whirlwind" terracer, used to prevent soil erosion. The company said the terracer would continue to be manufactured by the Sarvis Equipment Co., Dallas, Tex. The machine is operated by one man driving a tractor and reduces costs of moving dirt.

* * *

From Chicago Daily Tribune, Sept. 12 -

FARM MACHINE PERFORMANCE IS IMPROVED-Milwaukee-Wartime improvements have increased the efficiency of all types of tractors and farm implements, manufacturers and research technicians said at the national tractor meeting of the Society of Automotive Engineers today.

Newly developed post hole diggers attached to tractors can dig 10 times as many holes per day as men using hand tools, said K. W. Anderson, Deere & Co., engineer. Tractor wood saws are widely used both for cutting wood and clearing land.

The cotton industry will have to rely on mechanical cultivation and harvesting of cotton to compete in the world market against synthetic fibers, Anderson predicted. Mechanical cultivation and harvesting of sugar beets with the aid of tractors has been found more economical than older methods.

Many new implements and attachments are shared by groups of farmers, each borrowing the equipment for use with his own tractor. One of these is the front end loader which became widely used because of the wartime man power shortage and is increasing in popularity.

Manufacturers are cooperating in the development of new connecting devices that will make it easier to attach implements to tractors. Tractor designs are also influenced by crop trends.

Data on the performance of old tractors are used increasingly in the manufacture of new models, said John Dorland, engineer of Clark Equipment company. Operations, soil conditions, grades, and rolling resistance are calculated as closely as possible to reduce weight and cost of machines, he said.

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From Chicago Journal of Commerce, Sept. 12 -

UNIONS JOIN PACKERS IN OPA PROTEST-With packing plants throughout the country laying off workers as livestock supplies continued to drop off, the American Federation of Labor's Meat Cutters' Unions yesterday joined with the industry in charging that the return of price controls has "wrecked the meat packing industry."

In a telegram to President Truman, the unions said that 25,000 workers in the industry already have been laid off and that the number would reach 50,000 in another week because of "OPA bungling."

The CIO Packinghouse Workers estimated that 10,000 of its members here already were idle, and the stockyards' office of the state unemployment compensation division reported that more than 1,200 new applications for compensation were filed Monday and Tuesday and that yesterday's total was expected to equal that of the preceding two days.

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From Detroit Free Press, Sept. 11 -

IT'S PORTER'S IDEA-Editorial-Commenting on the shortage of meat which accompanied the reinstatement of price controls on Tuesday, OPA Administrator Paul Porter, had this to say: "There is going to be a shortage in any event because of the glut during these months of de-control. I anticipate that the OPA will be blamed for what would be a natural development of distribution." Apparently Mr. Porter reasons that plenty creates scarcity. A bountiful harvest for example must inevitably lead to a lean period. Don't ask to explain it. It's Mr. Porter's idea.

Farm Digest 2025-46-5

From The Southern Planter, Sept. -

A NEW LIVESTOCK FEED FOR THE SOUTH-Editorial-Just as it took breeders of Guernsey cattle a hundred years to discover that "Golden Guernsey" milk had a superior table quality which consumers would pay a premium price to enjoy, so, has it taken Southern farmers and agricultural scientists centuries to find out the food and feed value of sweet potatoes.

The sweet potato, a native of tropical America, has been cultivated in the South for three hundred years. Great strides have been made in the improvement of quality, productivity and methods of culture. But only in recent years have we begun to explore the food value of the sweet potato and to develop it as a feed for livestock. It now appears that dried sweet potato are equal in feeding value to corn, pound for pound; that properly cured sweetpotato vines compare favorably with alfalfa hay as a roughage. These two discoveries may be revolutionary. They mean more concentrates for the South's rapidly expanding livestock industry and a profitable outlet for those sweets too large and too small for the table trade, heretofore a waste that added to the per bushels cost of producing marketable sweet potatoes.

On the yield side, an acre of sweet potatoes on adapted soil, properly fertilized and tilled, will produce 300 bushels. They should grade out 100 bushels of uniform, well shaped potatoes for the consumers market, leaving 200 bushels of "jumbos" and "strings" to be dehydrated for stock feed, equal in feed value to 70 bushels of corn--three times the average per acre yield of corn in the South. In addition, a tone or two of sweet potato vine hay is produced to the acre.

Mechanical methods of harvesting the roots and vines of the sweetpotato are under test all over the South by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the state experient stations, cooperating with the various farm implement companies. Small dehydration plants are springing up to process the potato. We know of at least thirty such installations in North Carolina alone, most of them being set up during the past twelve months. The number is expected to double this fall and winter. At long last, it seems, the South has discovered the sweet potato.

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From The Christian Science Monitor, Sept. 7 -

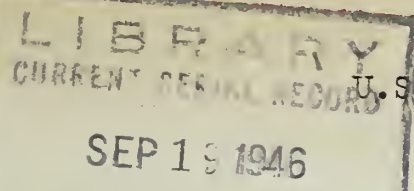
13,000 FARM CADET REAPERS AID WITH EMPIRE STATE CROPS-Albany, N.Y.- Approximately 13,000 city boys and girls, members of the Farm Cadet Service, aided in harvesting New York State's crops this year.

Two thousand of the young temporary farmers were placed on individual dairy and general farms where they lived with the farmers' families and earned the gratitude not only of the farmer, but all members of their families as well, officials of the F.C.S. said. About 1,000 girls spent from three to six weeks gathering seasonal crops. More than 10,000 city boys and girls went out to the fields on a day to day basis to aid in harvesting fruits and vegetables.

For some of the livein young farm workers, this was their second and third season with the same family. This has built up lasting friendships between city and farm families.

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DAILY FARM NEWS DIGEST
(For Sept. 17, 1946)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington, D.C.

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 17 -

105 OPERATORS DEFY DRIVERS ON EVE OF TRUCK UNION VOTE-With hope for a break in the truck strike hinging on the outcome of a union meeting this afternoon, 105 operators, claiming to represent a substantial majority of the city's trucking vowed yesterday that they would not sign individual contracts or grant the wage increases sought by the union.

Their defiance of the "divide and conquer" strategy by which leaders of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL, hope to clear the way for full deliveries of food, medicine, newsprint and other strike-bound commodities was voted at a meeting under the auspices of the joint wage scale committee representing the two largest employer organizations, the Motor Carrier Association and the State Motor Truck Association.

Far from being disturbed by this development, city and union officials took the view that the continued refusal of the two associations to accept the union's wage program or to put forward any new wage offer of their own strengthened the chances that the strikers would authorize their officers to sign separate agreements with employers willing to break away from the leadership of the two associations.

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AFL, CIO MEN CLASH AT PIERS-Side factors involving picket lines, security watches aboard strike-bound ships and threatened violence overshadowed yesterday the basic issues of the twelve-day-old country-wide maritime strike.

Police reinforced their waterfront patrols in most of America's major port cities as the heads of the American Federation of Labor maritime unions demanded that the National Maritime Union, CIO, withdraw its pickets from ships under contract to the AFL, and threatened to cross them if they did not.

Two minor flare-ups between NMU pickets and stevedores developed along the Hudson River waterfront after members of the International Longshoremen's Association, AFL--under instructions from Joseph R. Ryan, president, and in several instances led by him--crossed the CIO lines.

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UNRRA MAY PUNISH RUSSIA, CLARK SAYS-Washington, Mark W. Clark, American commander in Austria, told the Overseas Writers today that the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was considering action against the Soviet Union for refusing to help feed all the military zones in Austria.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times)

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From The New York Times, Sept. 17 -

OPA ORDER RESTAURANTS TO SET BACK PRICE OF MEATS-Washington-Restaurant prices for meals and individual food items having meat as the major ingredient were returned today by the Office of Price Administration to the price levels in effect on June 30. The action is effective immediately. The restoration of restaurant prices to the ceiling prices current when the OPA temporarily passed out of existence was described as a "rollback" by the agency, but officials were reluctant to state, in specific terms, how much the cost of "dining out" would be reduced. Those who did not offer estimates mentioned an average scale down of 10 percent.

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CHAIN STORE CLOSINGS SEND BUYERS ON HUNT FOR "PLENTIFUL" FOOD ITEMS-The impact of the trucking strike literally hit home yesterday as the housewife found she had to depend to an even greater degree on the small independent store for her foodstuffs because the chain stores were either closed or badly stripped of stock for lack of normal deliveries.

Perishables and a few dry groceries continued to move to the independents in a volume termed "sufficient to meet demands" but what the situation today will be throughout the metropolitan area could not be forecast.

The wildcat strike of United Parcel Services union drivers continued without a formal strike vote. The result is that even today, 375 of the largest retail stores that employ this service will be unable to make deliveries.

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RETAIL COTTON RISE APPROVED BY OPA-Washington-A further increase in the retail prices of cotton goods, affecting more than half of the total volume of cotton production according to estimates of the Office of Price Administration was established today by the Price Control Agency.

The action was a consequence of the five cent an hour wage boost for cotton textile mills approved last week by the National Wage Stabilization Board. This was reflected in an average increase of 2 percent in the ceiling prices of cotton textiles made by mills paying approved wages.

The OPA said that the rise would increase by 1 per cent the prices of garments made from cotton produced in the eligible mills and by $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent the prices of such items as cotton bed linens, towels and tablecloths and napkins made under the same conditions. For most common types of carded fabrics, such as denim, gingham, print-cloth and sheeting, the advance was under 2 per cent.

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From New York Herald Tribune, Sept. 17 -

URGES CONSERVATION PARLEY ON U.N.-Sake Success, N.Y.-A United Nations scientific conference to study conservation and utilization of world resources may be called for next year.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 17 -

PERU SETS FLOOR PRICE ON PYRETHRUM, Washington - The Peruvian Government is entering the commercial insecticide marketing business by establishing a floor of about 14.7c a pound for domestically produced pyrethrum in a move to stimulate production of this insecticide ingredient, according to reports reaching the Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce.

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PLAN TO BOOST HOLLAND'S FERTILIZER OUTPUT - A three-year extension project for Holland's nitrogen industry, which is expected to increase the production of fertilizer from the present 168 tons daily to 300 tons, has been submitted to the Government by the State Mines in southern Limburg Province, according to a report from the Netherlands News Service. The total cost of the project is estimated at 34,000,000 guilders.

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SUPPLIES OF BUTTER STILL SUBNORMAL - Local trucking and maritime workers' strikes still are exerting an impeding influence on normal receipts and deliveries of butter and other perishables. Total quantities of butter available both in storage and fresh production runs so far short of anything like normal for the season that the firming influence is being accentuated.

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SUGAR PRICE RISE TO END SUBSIDIES - Announcement of a sugar price increase of 1.37c a pound for raws, 1½c for beet sugar and imported refined and presumably the same for cane refiners' brands, which will establish the base of 7.60c a pound, poses many technical problems in carrying the price schedule into operation.

The difficulties for the most part will be with the Cuban price. The base Cuban level is 3.67½c with six escalator provisions. Obviously some adjustments will have to be made or considerations given procedure before the new price goes into effect.

The higher price for the most part will eliminate subsidies and put the sugar market on a pas-as-you-go basis. The refiners and beet sugar processors will not benefit to any large extent by the rise, but the producers should get a substantial part of the rise.

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ALL GRAIN FUTURES RISE FRACTIONALLY - Chicago grain futures maintained a steady to firm undertone during afternoon trading after indecisive early action and closings for most deliveries were fractionally higher on support stimulated by small country offerings and substantial purchases of wheat by the CCC over the week-end.

The Chicago office of the CCC announced that it had purchased 3,000,000 bushels of wheat over the week-end for delivery during the last half of October through the first half of December. In addition, it was reported that 1,300,000 bushels of wheat had been purchased by that agency in Duluth. Tending to make for caution on the buying side, however, were reports of a considerable improvement in the boxcar situation in the Northwest which was expected to result in larger receipts at terminals, and clear, warm weather over much of the country which was favorable for maturing corn.

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 17 -

ANGLO-ARGENTINE ACCORD REACHED, London - Press reports that officials of the Argentine and British Governments had brought their ten-weeks' economic and financial discussion to a successful conclusion today sent dealers into the stock market scrambling for Argentine Railway shares.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17 -

CIGARETTE SETBACK - After 13 years of climbing, cigarette production has paused to catch its breath. It finds itself still on a pinnacle, about 212% above the depression valley of 1932. Some 333.2 billion smokes were turned out in the twelve months that ended June 30, but this was 2% less than the year before.

Half a billion fewer cigarettes were made from January to July this year than in the like months last year. And a majority of industry leaders, each appraising the outlook from the vantage of his own company, think the balance of this year can only approximate, or exceed by little, the 161.2 billion output in July-December, 1945.

These gentlemen, close-mouthed in a highly competitive business, are reluctant to advance reasons for their slump. One cause, of course, was the "inflated" nature of wartime cigarette purchases by the Government. Immense gift exports of cigarettes by U.N.R.R.A. and the Red Cross will disappear.

Over the long run, the history of the cigarette in this century indicates that consumption will go up and up. Back in 1900 the number of cigarettes smoked totaled 34.9 for every man, woman and child in the country. Now this figure is above 2,000.

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GRAIN BUYING from abroad will sag after foreigners appraise their harvests. Crops in most European countries are far better than was expected, U. S. officials returning from the Continent declare. Because of disrupted reporting systems, the European nations are finding it difficult to get an accurate tally of how much was produced. But their estimates keep going up.

As a result, some countries are making sharp downward revisions in the quantity of U. S. grain they expect to buy. High U. S. grain prices, plus a dollar shortage abroad, also contribute to the scaling down to demand.

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CROP "GUIDES" loom as the newest method of controlling farm production. Convinced that in another year there will be a definite threat of agricultural surpluses, Agriculture Department planners are now readying a system of "guides" to set the acreage each farmer can plant to wheat, corn and other important crops.

Actually the "guides" are nothing more than a peacetime version of the crop "goals" used during the war to boost output. The major distinction between the two is that the goals constituted a patriotic appeal to farmers to plant at least as much as the Government asked, while the guides will be an order not to plant above the Government limit.

Potatoes will offer a testing ground for the new system next season. Growers planting more than their allotted acreage will not be eligible for federal loans; nor will the Government buy their surplus spuds.

From The New York Times, September 15 -

THE DEEP SOUTH-Rich But Uneven Cotton Crop Brings Feast and Famine-New Orleans-The most valuable cotton crop in more than twenty years is bringing both feast and famine to planters of the Deep South.

If the harvest proceeds as it has started, the lint and seed will bring more than \$1,900,000,000 in the world's markets. Distribution of this money, however, will be spotty rather than even.

With prices for better grades ranging close to 40 cents, planters blessed with sandy soil face prospects of a rich harvest. Some of their neighbors whose thick "buckshot" soil grows the South's finest cotton in drier years, are picking a short crop.

Heavy rains during the planting and growing seasons have handicapped growers in the "Black belts" of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. Their heavy soil remained sticky and soggy while the sandy loam of many Southern plantations permitted quick escape of moisture. Owners of creek bottom lands and of sloping hillsides generally have fared well this season.

Credit agencies in New Orleans expect a substantial proportion of the South's cotton-growing population to fail to "pay out" this year. At the same time, a larger proportion probably will net more money on the crop than in any year since 1923.

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OPA HEAD DECRIES 'MEAT FAMINE' TALK-Washington-The present dearth of meat in retail stores was a natural aftermath of the abnormal marketings of beef and pork during the period of uncontrolled prices, Paul A. Porter, head of the Office of Price Administration, said in his weekly broadcast today. He declared that consumers should not give credence to a widespread report of a meat famine through the fall and winter, saying that developments would disclose it to be "the irresponsible rumor that it is."

He asserted that meat ceiling prices imposed at retail this week would be maintained. The OPA would have 2,500 agents in the field to check on black market activities, he said, and they would be alert for violations of ceilings in stockyards, wholesale establishments and retail stores.

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From Chicago Journal of Commerce, September 13 -

MEAT DECONTROL NOT EXPECTED BEFORE ELECTION-Washington-Government officials close to the meat situation today unofficially agreed that decontrol of meat is extremely unlikely until after the November election, regardless of how badly Office of Price Administration ceilings and control policies for the meat and livestock industries work, because of administration commitment to price control on cost of living items.

This consensus backs recent statements by packer representatives that the entire industry is being used as a political football in an administration effort to convince voters that the present government policy is protecting the average citizen from increased meat prices.

The only hope for relief in the industry rests upon possible action by the Price Decontrol Board, which has full power over meat and livestock, and can reconsider its August control order at any time.

With the Department of Agriculture almost sure to list livestock and meat in short supply on Oct. 1, it is accepted generally that the board could act only if it felt that black market operations will reach a point where their elimination is more in the public interest than what many packers call "the fiction" of OPA price control.

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From The Milwaukee Journal, September 12 -

OPA'S SUGAR RULES SCORED-Superior, Wis.(AP)-The OPA was accused of being "extreme and unreasonable" in its enforcement of sugar rationing regulations Wednesday by the Wisconsin Retail Food Dealers' association in convention here.

The forty-fourth annual session approved a resolution deploring institution of suspension proceedings by the OPA against grocers who showed sugar shortages, terming such action an "extreme and unreasonable penalty which is justified neither by the nature of the offense nor by any reasonable requirement of the sugar rationing program."

The measure asked that the agency decline to start further suspension proceedings "except in cases where it can be established the violation was willful or the result of failure to take reasonable precautions."

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From The Kansas City Times, September 13 -

A SOAP SHORTAGE SEEN-Cincinnati, (AP)-The nation faces a soap shortage more acute than in the worst war years as a direct result of the current meat crisis, a high official of the Procter & Gamble company, one of the World's largest manufacturers of soap products, declared today.

He made the prediction amid reports that many soapless Cincinnati housewives were pooling waste fats to make their own soap while others turned in fats to their grocers in return for soap purchase priority.

The official, who declined use of his name, said the shortage would grow steadily worse "until the government takes measures to get livestock slaughter back on a reasonable basis," adding "fat is the basic ingredient of soap and when no livestock is slaughtered the manufacturer is deprived of his major source of soap fats."

He said a "holding movement" by tallow renderers hoping for price ceiling increases aggravated the situation, but that release of the renderers' stock pile would provide only "brief relief."

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From Ann Arbor (Mich) Washtenaw Post-Tribune, September 13 -

SUBSIDY SHENANIGANS-Editorial- Do you remember subsidies? Subsidies, which have been ganged-up upon so that to some their very name is anathema? -- so that Congress, the 79th Congress, the we-don't-give-a-damn Congress, after fighting them for several years finally and definitely expelled them from the American scene as a product of Communism, the New Deal and the Devil -- all of which terms to many Americans in and out of Congress are one and the same!

The Post-Tribune with its wee sma' voice has from time to time tried to point out that some subsidies are needed in our present day economy. The subsidy, for example, on dairy products which was finally wiped out a month or so ago. This subsidy cost the taxpayers a lot of money, -- \$400,000,000, a year. So we eliminated that terrific expense and for good measure, removed the ceiling on prices. And what have we instead? Why, bless your souls, we pay 85 cents a pound for butter where we paid 55; we pay 70 cents for cheese where we paid 40 to 45, and we pay 3 cents additional per quart for milk. But butter and cheese and milk are commodities which we all consume in quantity. Our babies and young people couldn't have health without milk. And there are 140,000,000 of us who do the daily consuming.

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SEP 24 1946

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 18 -

TRUCKS ROLL, 456 CONCERNS SIGN- Trucks carrying food, newsprint and other much-needed supplies began rumbling through the city's streets last night as operators whose trucks had been strikebound for sixteen days rushed to sign individual contracts with three locals of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL.

With Mayor O'Dwyer predicting that local truck operations would return to normal "well before the end of the week," union leaders reported that 2,925 of the 15,000 striking drivers had been instructed to go back to work after 456 employers had signed agreements embodying a wage increase of 31 cents an hour, a forty hour week and liberalized vacation and over time provisions.

Although the union contended that the "avalanche" of signed contracts had "broken the back" of employer resistance to the new wage formula, the joint committee representing the two principal associations of truck owners insisted through its chairman, Joseph M. Adelizzi, that the operators of "at least 95 percent" of the city's 20,000 trucks were standing fast against the union's proposal.

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BREAK IS EXPECTED IN SEA STRIKE-A major break in the country wide shipping strike was expected last night following reports that Government agencies were bringing strong pressure on shipowners on both coasts and three unions currently involved in the dispute to resume negotiations.

Developments were said to have reached the point where negotiations between the Eastern operators of thirty-nine lines and the National Maritime Union, CIO, which were broken off on Sunday, may be resumed again today. Frederick R. Livingston, Federal conciliator, was standing by for this possibility.

Tension on the nation's waterfronts was eased considerably also after the Committee for Maritime Unity, consisting of one independent and six Congress of Industrial Organizations unions, withdrew pickets from Gulf and East Coast ships under contract to the American Federation of Labor.

The AFL had threatened to cross the CIO picket lines yesterday morning if they were not withdrawn but said its affiliates on other ships under contract to CIO unions would continue to respect the pickets.

Settlement of the principal issues of the strike--parity wage payments to seamen affiliated with different unions on the theory of "equal pay for equal work"--was said to rest in part, it was reported, in an arbitration award expected today from James L. Fly, former chairman of the Federal Communications Commission.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, Sept. 18 -

TRUMAN SEEKS NEW WAGE POLICY-Washington-President Truman has asked the advisory committee of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion to examine the entire wage stabilization policy of the Government and indicate what may possibly be a new feasible program if the Wage Stabilization Board is scrapped.

As a result of the President's request the advisory committee named today from its membership a subcommittee to look into the subject.

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RESTAURANTS FIGHT CEILING ROLLBACK-Most of the city's public eating places kept their prices unchanged yesterday as the major restaurant and hotel associations challenged the legality of the rollback order issued by the Office of Price Administration on Monday.

The OPA, which did not send out enforcement agents to take action against places failing to restore June 30 prices on meals and individual dishes having meat as the main ingredient, announced that price panel volunteers would be used to collect menus for comparison with those of last June. This procedure will permit the Federal agency to continue concentration of its enforcement personnel against black marketing in retail butcher shops.

Some eating places here, including several popular priced chain restaurants, marked down prices on their meat dishes an average of 10 percent but most places stood on their printed menu prices. Restaurant managers, pointed out that menus were printed several days ahead, expressed the hope that "the OPA order may be changed before we use up our present menus."

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HORSEMENT SALES JUMP-Newark, N.J.-Horsement dealers here report business increases ranging from 50 to 75 percent, thanks, they say, to the current meat shortage.

Sam Stromeyer, owner of the Whirlaway Meat Company said new converts accounted for a 75 percent sales increase and were returning highly pleased because, he added, horsement has more protein, makes more gravy and most important--there's plenty of it.

Mrs. Fredericka Meyer of the Station Horsement Market at Summit estimated her business had increased 50 percent during the past week.

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MALNUTRITION SEEN AS 'STALKING EUROPE'-Malnutrition "is stalking Europe" Miss Jane Evans, members of the executive board of the Supplies for Overseas Survivors Collection of the Joint Distribution Committee, declared yesterday at SOS collection division headquarters. Just returned from a two months' trip abroad to survey relief conditions there, Miss Evans particularly challenged the remarks of casual travelers returning from short business trips abroad who fail to realize the physical condition of its people.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 18 -

DAIRYMEN VOICE OPPOSITION TO REIMPOSITION OF CONTROLS, Washington - With the possible recontrol of dairy prices to be considered by the Price Decontrol Board tomorrow, the dairy industry generally, in briefs filed with PDB, has taken the position that price ceilings should not be reimposed at this time.

Some 30 briefs, letters and telegrams on this subject have so far been received by PDB and several important briefs are expected to be filed tomorrow. Although PDB is understood to be primarily interested in the butter and cheese situation, many of the letters discuss the entire dairy products outlook.

The arguments so far received are about evenly divided, with most consumer and labor organizations appealing for recontrol of all dairy products and dairy representatives asking that decontrol be continued. Several important briefs, such as those to be filed by the National Co-operative Milk Producers Federation, and the Dairy Industry Committee, have not yet been sent to PDB.

However, the National Co-operative Milk Producers Federation is still gathering statistical material telegraphically and expects to file its brief tomorrow.

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GRAIN, COTTON GAINS EXTEND ADVANCE IN SENSITIVE PRICES - Gains in raw cotton and grains again lifted the commodity price level. The Journal of Commerce daily index of 30 sensitive commodity prices extended the gradual advance which has featured the price level for the past week, rising to 223.7, 6 fractional points over the previous day's close.

Government purchasing of wheat lent strength to other grains, lifting the group average to 330.6 compared with 328.0 the day before.

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BRITAIN, ARGENTINA SIGN TRADE PACT, London - Britain and Argentina signed a trade and financial agreement today settling their differences on sterling payments, meat purchases and British-owned Argentine railroads and agreeing to continue an expired trade treaty until a new one can be negotiated, the British Government announced.

The two countries agreed that Britain could buy all Argentine surplus meat for a four-year period except small reserves for sale in other countries. These reserves would amount to 17 per cent in the first year and 22 percent in the second, with a proviso that Britain could also buy part of the reserves if they were not actually sold to other countries. Britain agreed to pay at least 45 per cent more for the meat than at present.

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CO-OP AND GOVERNMENT SURPLUS - Farm co-operative organizations which customarily buy certain goods in large enough quantities to establish themselves on a level with retail or wholesale dealers may buy surplus goods under the same conditions as similar commercial enterprise, regional officials of the War Assets Administration informed farm co-operative leaders meeting with them here this week.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.) - - -

Farm Digest 2045-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 18 (Cont.) -

ADVANCE IN WHEAT FEATURES GRAINS - Indications that the Government wheat purchase program was swinging into high gear after lagging for a several week period provided impetus to a buying movement of wheat futures at Chicago and other markets which also carried over into other grains.

It was announced that the CCC had acquired another 3,070,000 bushels of wheat at Chicago; 1,520,000 bushels at Kansas City and 350,000 bushels at Duluth on Monday and further buying was reported in the Southwest yesterday, although the quantities involved had not yet been disclosed.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Sept. 18 -

COAST GROWERS PLAGUED BY FOREIGN GARLIC, Hollister, Calif. - Garlic growers, who produce more than four-fifths of the U. S. crop on their California farms, have been plagued by a wave of foreign imports which has depressed prices sharply.

Buyers are paying $14\frac{1}{2}$ to 15 cents a pound on late crop garlic (90% of the acreage) and bulbs from the early crop sold as low as 10 cents a pound. Although this season's prices are far above the 4.31 cents pre-war average (1935-40), they are running substantially below last year's average.....

This year, the Latin Americans outdid themselves shipping in more than eight million pounds in the first four months, against 4.8 million in the like period of 1945.

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EXPERTS WARN SUGAR SHORTAGE WILL LAST WELL INTO 1948, Washington - Government experts warned yesterday that the sugar shortage will plague housewives well into 1948 and that rationing probably will have to continue for another year.

The present acute shortage--there is not enough sugar available to honor all valid ration coupons--resulted primarily from World War II's disruption of world production. Strikes at home and abroad have added to the problem.

The scarcity is illustrated by the fact that the country is now consuming only 73 pounds of sugar annually per person. Before the war, per capita consumption average 102 pounds. Some sugar experts of the O.P.A. look to the Philippines for some relief.

But Roy A. Ballinger, the Agriculture Department's number one specialist, reported that "no sugar from the Philippines is likely to be available to the United States until 1948." Mr. Ballinger is pessimistic about sugar prospects for next year, predicting that the 1947 world crop probably will be "considerably below normal."

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CUBAN PRICE SITUATION - Cuban sugar mill owners have decided to oppose any attempt by Cuba's government to seize the funds resulting from sugar price increases for general subsidy purposes, according to cables from Luis Mendoza, Cuban sugar trade authority in Havana.

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From Chicago Journal of Commerce, September 16 -

FOOD PRICE CONTROL WON'T FEED WORLD'S HUNGRY HAVE NOTS-By Wilbur J. Brons-
Most official discussions of world economic problems these days fall into a fairly definite pattern. The reporters who cover them can almost predict what will be said. Usually, official spokesmen start off with the premise that the United States cannot evade its responsibility for global leadership and then trail off into polite dissertations on the trials of economic isolation, etc.

It comes as a pleasurable surprise, therefore, to learn that our State Department in Washington is not sympathetic to the idea of an international board to market the world's food. Perhaps the State Department is thinking of our costly domestic efforts in the direction of an "ever normal" granary. Regardless of the reasons, however, the department's opposition is something with which most Americans will be in sympathy. If and when this country engages in any world food-pricing scheme, the American farmer can kiss goodbye to what remains of his traditional independence.

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From The Memphis Commercial Appeal, September 15 -

NATIONAL FARM UNION SEEKS WAGE INCREASE-A union scale of \$4 a hundred pound will be demanded for day cotton pickers, it was decided at a conference of the National Farm Union (A.F. of L.) ending here yesterday.

The delegates from 84 Southeast Missouri, Mississippi and Arkansas locals were instructed to return to their membership and report the action of the conference. A specially appointed Wage Committee will meet here again Sept. 28 for a report on how the locals have fared in their campaign.

It was indicated that if the \$4 is not met that the Wage Committee will take action at its Sept. 28 meeting.

It also was decided that the delegates in reporting back to their membership shall distribute circulars in their territory to all farm laborers explaining the union's demand.

Special circulars printed in Spanish, are to be circulated among imported Mexican laborers setting forth the union scale and an effort is to be made to obtain the cooperation of these workers.

The conference also voted to start a campaign for organization of Memphis pickers, who go each day to the plantations.

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From The New Orleans Times-Picayune, September 12 -

CITY FOOD STOCKS BEGIN DWINDLING-Growing scarcity of certain food items Wednesday provoked a move by the New Orleans Retail Grocer's Association to call on the wage stabilization board to act on the shipping strike.

The food situation in New Orleans was described as "serious" by Clyde de la Houssaye, attorney for the association, who said that the tieup is already resulting in dwindling stocks of sugar, soap, canned goods and other bulk foods.

"The situation is bad enough without the addition of labor difficulties," Mr. de la Houssaye said. "We plan to meet to draft a resolution pointing out the dire need of a settlement to the war stabilization board."

"A major portion of New Orleans' foodstuffs come in by coastwise barges. But since they are being picketed, it is impossible to unload them."

Trains cannot alleviate the situation, he added, because of the acute shortage of boxcars, and the shortage is aggravated by a tieup of many of them with export foodstuffs.

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, September 16.-

A SCHEME TO STARVE AMERICA-Editorial-The food and agricultural organization a division of the United Nations, has hatched a scheme for a world food board to control the production, distribution, and use of food thru-out the world.

The meeting of FAO in Denmark closed with instructions to a commission to draft a detailed control plan for submission to the member nations by Nov. 1. Discussions at the two week meeting did not make clear what all the details of this plan will be, but its essence was indicated in the FAO statement that the world can no longer depend upon the play of free economy in the production and use of food.

It is unfortunate that the FAO conference was held in the Danish parliament building in Copenhagen, with a bar and smorgasbord available to put an average of 10 pounds apiece on the delegates. A more appropriate site would have been the Union stock yards right here in Chicago.

There, as the delegates deliberated, they would have had at hand a demonstration of what happens when one country removes one commodity, meat, from the allegedly outmoded play of a free economy and tries to subject its production and use to government control in the supposed interest of consumers.

Another benefit of such a location for the meeting would have been that such middlewestern farmers as had business at the stock yards would have had a glimpse of the men who are conspiring to fasten the controls and financial burden of world socialism on American agriculture. The men who met at Copenhagen to plan the world food board are, almost without exception, Socialists, Communists or some other kind of collectivists. The New Deal administration is willing to go along with that plan in order to foist socialism on America.

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From Prairie Farmer, September 14.-

HEARD AT THE YARDS-Editorial-Cattle for slaughter did just what was expected under the new ceilings.

But around the pens of stocker and feeder steers at Chicago there was unexpected activity.

Instead of throwing up their hands at the new ceilings, farmers were actively in the market. A group of them thought this was the way a lot of feeders were figuring:

"There's a big corn crop coming and lower prices.

"There's a good supply of roughage.

"The free market period indicated what beef might do when -- and if -- controls are taken off again after next June 30.

"Western producers will tend to hold back until after June 30, thus reducing the supply of feeders.

"All this will increase feeder prices this fall -- so we're on the spot early."

A great many feed lots, emptied during the free market period, are soon going to be active again. The cattle feeding business has its eye on the future, and it's not too gloomy an eye, either.

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From The Utah Farmer, September 10 -

SHOULD ABUNDANT FARM PRODUCTION CONTINUE?-Editorial-The Special House Committee on Postwar Economic Planning recommends that such pre-war farm legislation as scarcity programs, acreage restrictions and marketing quotas, be thrown out for good. The war years proved that greater production is the essence of any good farm program.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From New York Times, Sept. 19 -

41% OF TRUCKERS AT WORK: CITY FOOD SUPPLY IMPROVED-The city's industry limped back toward normal yesterday as three locals of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL, reported that 4,715 truck drivers, or 41 percent of those involved in the strike that started Sept. 1, had gone back to work under contracts providing a wage increase of 31 cents an hour.

The food situation improved as two of the city's largest wholesale grocers, Seenan Brother and Francis H. Leggett & Co., broke away from the leadership of the associations and signed individual agreements. With the H. C. Bohack and Thomas Roulston food chain drivers already at work under similar contracts, union officials were confident that all food movements would be normal within a day or two.

DEADLOCK IN WEST CONTINUES TO BALK SEA STRIKE PEACE-A renewal of negotiations between the National Maritime Union, CIO, and thirty nine Eastern operators to end the shipping strike was held up yesterday by a continued deadlock on the West Coast. All parties here agreed that the basic issues between them could be settled in short order, and Frederick R. Livingston, Federal conciliator, continued his efforts to bring them together.

He had expected to arrange a joint meeting yesterday but this fell through when no word came from the West Coast of any change in the shipping companies' refusal to meet with two striking West Coast unions until they return to work.

The Committee for Maritime Unity announced, meanwhile, that its entire executive board would meet in Washington tomorrow morning with Philip Murray, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

BRITAIN'S BREAD LIGHTER-London-Great Britain's bread is to be a shade lighter after next Sunday, when the flour extraction rate will be reduced from 90 to 85 percent. Announcing this today, Minister of Food John Strachey said the reduction was warranted by "some improvement in our over all supply position of wheat" despite "deplorable harvest weather in this country."

But he said bread rationing must remain until he felt it "safe" to remove it.

The primary purpose of the lower extraction rate, Mr. Strachey said, is to provide bigger rations for dairy cows during this winter by increasing millers' offals.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 19 -

TOTAL INVENTORIES AT END OF JULY PUT AT RECORD OF \$30,000,000,000-Washington-New highs of \$4,000,000,000 and \$7,400,000,000 for wholesale and retail inventories brought total business inventories to a record volume of \$30,000,000,000 at the end of July according to an industry survey issued today by the Department of Commerce. This figure surpassed the previous high in November, 1943, by \$1,150,000,000.

The unprecedented rise of \$1,300,000,000 monthly stacked up as follows: \$800,000,000 rise in manufacturing; \$150,000,000 in wholesale trade; and \$350,000,000 in retail trade.

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5,000 BALES OF SILK SOLD FOR \$5,000,000-Hosiery manufacturers silk dealers, brokers and textile weavers gave evidence yesterday of their belief in the return of silk as a leading textile fiber at the first public auction of Japanese silk conducted at the Park Central Hotel by the United States Commercial Company, subsidiary of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

The Government found bidders for the entire inventory of 5,000 bales at prices well over minimums set in the catalogue to bring a return in excess of \$5,000,000. Bids exceeded "upset" prices by 5 cents a pound to more than \$3.50. However, hundreds of bales were sold at from \$6 per pound for Grade E to \$10.50 for AAA.

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FOOD PRICES ADVANCE AGAIN-The weekly food index compiled by Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., advanced 4 cents to \$5.03 in the week ended Sept. 10. This compares with \$4.99 a week before and with \$4.04 in the similar week of last year. Advances were recorded for flour, corn, oats, barley, butter, eggs, prunes and sheep. Prices of rye, potatoes, and lamb declined.

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URGES IMPORTATION OF GERMAN POTASH-American manufacturers of fertilizer, who will turn out a record breaking production of 14,000,000 tons in the year ended June 30, 1947, need have no fear of foreign competition, Maurice H. Lockwood, president of the National Fertilizer Association told a press conference yesterday. He said that most of the 480 members of the industry favored a revival of the German potash industry and importation of that product to conserve American supplies for any national emergency.

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RETAIL PRICES RISE ANEW-Retail prices in September advanced for the sixth consecutive month, according to the Fairchild Publications' retail price index, released yesterday. Quotations showed the greatest monthly gains since relaxation of price controls and the index at 116 was at a new high. The composite index showed a gain of 0.9 per cent compared with the previous month, an advance of 2.2 per cent compared with a year ago.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 16 -

OPA HEAD URGES DAIRY RECONTROLS - Washington - AP - Price Administrator Paul Porter told the Decontrol Board today that a return of ceilings for all dairy products "is essential to the stabilization program," while 2,000 retail grocers telegraphed pleas that the products remain uncontrolled.

The independent board took these and other arguments for and against dairy price ceilings under study. Aides said there probably will be no decision before Friday.

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SENSITIVE PRICE INDEX HIGHER - The rise in the commodity price level broadened yesterday to include new higher ceilings for sugar, linseed oil and print cloths. The Journal of Commerce daily index of 30 sensitive commodities rose to 225.2 a gain of 1.5 for the day. Grain prices again averaged higher, while raw cotton showed marked recessions, reflecting renewed weakness in the security market.

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CROP IN OKLAHOMA REPORTED INFESTED - Oklahoma City - General improvement in cotton resulted from cooler weather and better moisture conditions recently. Needed rains halted premature opening of bolls except in some localities in northeastern sections of the State.

The plant is reported as squaring heavily in localities where moisture has been sufficient. However, heavy weevil activity was damaging early plantings in many fields in eastern and central parts of the State. A large number of squares are being punctured in these sections.

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COTTON PRICES DROP WITH STOCK MART - In sympathy with stocks, cotton futures fell more than \$1.50 a bale in an uneasy session on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday. No increase in hedging was apparent, although sales in the ten Southern spot markets continued to soar in volume. Market experts attributed this to the movement of spot cotton to foreign mills rather than to the domestic trade. Despite the importance of market news released yesterday, the major influence on cotton futures continued to be weakness in the stock market.

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PACKERS CLOSE AS LIVE STOCK PINCH GROWS - Albany, N.Y., (AP) - New York's packing plants and wholesale distributors continued to curtail or suspend operations today as the widespread meat shortage produced mounting unemployment. Hundreds of meat industry workers were idle and many more were "standing around," awaiting lay-off.

Plants in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Albany and New York city either have closed or were about to shut down for lack of live stock to process. Some plants assigned employees to maintenance duties.

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From the Wall Street Journal, Sept. 19 -

PENICILLIN'S PRICE soon will slide down to 1% of what it was three years ago. The reason: bigger output. When the mold-made wonder drug was first put into use in 1943 it cost at wholesale about \$20 a dose (1/10th of a gram). Present price is 37½ cents a dose; manufacturers say it will soon be 20 cents. Hospitals, of course, sell the drug above the wholesale price; they currently charge patients about 60 cents a dose.

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REFRIGERATION COSTS - Washington (AP) - Two Agriculture Department Economists told the Interstate Commerce Commission that costs in connection with refrigeration of rail shipments have not increased unduly. They testified in opposition to the nation's carriers' request for a 25% increase in freight rates.

One of the witnesses, Harold D. Johnson, challenged testimony submitted at Chicago and Atlanta regional hearings to the effect that there had been a large increase in the cost of furnishing protective services, particularly refrigeration of perishable freight.

"Aside from labor," said Mr. Johnson, "we have been unable to find any supporting data indicating such increases."

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FEED BUSINESS BECOMING HIGHLY COMPETITIVE - (Chicago) - The feed situation is changing rapidly and is becoming a highly competitive business for the first time since the war, Harold J. Buist, president and chairman of Allied Mills, Inc., told stockholders at the annual meeting yesterday.

Mr. Buist said that the company has set up an extensive sales program to replace the "order taker" system which has prevailed the last few years... Sales so far this year are about equal to last year's rate, Mr. Buist said, with prospects of an early improvement in materials supply as a result of this year's large corn crop. High protein feeds, however, will remain in short supply for some time to come, he added.

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U.S. COTTON CONSUMPTION IN AUGUST ABOVE JULY; TOTALED 855,551 BALES.-

Washington - The Census Bureau reported that United States mills consumed 855,511 bales of cotton during August, compared with 729,958 in July and 738,449 bales in August 1945.

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EUROPE SEEKS UNITED STATES CORN - Nearly every cable arriving from Europe to grain merchants here requests offers of new United States corn, but the Government agent refuses to promise to furnish export licenses, resulting in the European buyer turning to the Argentine for supplies, says Broomhall. United States corn is in keen demand and a large surplus is available.

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From The Kansas City Times, September 16 -

OPA VISION OF MEAT-Editorial-Paul Porter of the OPA is talking through his hat when he asserts that meat supplies will be "fairly good" in six to eight weeks. Livestock producers know much more about the situation than Mr. Porter knows and they do not share his optimism to that extent. He is evidently assuming that cattle now in the feed lots will be coming to market late in October and early November and also that the spring pig crop will be ready for marketing about that time. And he issues a warning against holding back in the expectation of higher prices, saying there will be no ceiling changes except those authorized by law.

The OPA administrator should look around a bit. He would find that while more livestock might be in the market in about two months, supplies of cattle in feed lots are not at all adequate to consumer demands and will not be within any such period. That holds as well for the spring pig crop which also was short. When the condition will be substantially improved is not definitely known but in all probability it will be after Mr. Porter's concern with ceilings has entirely disappeared.

As to ceiling changes on livestock, Mr. Porter has nothing to do with them. They fall to Secretary Anderson of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Anderson bowled over the OPA administrator once before by raising the livestock ceilings above the levels of June 30, forcing Mr. Porter into a hasty upward revision of the retail ceilings on meat. There is no saying what might happen here again, the meat shortage being what it is today.

Furthermore, the law requires a cut of 50 per cent in government subsidies early in January - when ceilings would have to be shifted upward - and then by April 1 the subsidies must be withdrawn altogether, with still another ceiling change. The consequent uncertainty of future prices quite obviously would be a factor in the marketing of livestock. It is hard to see how Mr. Porter could frighten the producers into early release of their holdings in the face of this uncertainty - the same uncertainty of the future that brought the rush of marketing when ceilings were suspended in July and August and thus largely created the present shortage.

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From the Chicago Daily Tribune, September 17 -

WHERE THE MEAT'S GOING-Editorial-With the restoration of OPA meat controls, Chicago, the supposed meat packing center of the world, has again become just a way stop for cattle on their way to market. It was estimated here last week that 80 per cent of the animals purchased were shipped east for slaughter and most of the remainder were bought for fattening on middle western farms.

The story is not a new one. In the four weeks just before OPA went out of business temporarily the number of cattle slaughtered in the New York City-New Jersey area was one and three-quarters times the number slaughtered in Chicago. That was when the black market completely controlled the cattle trade. During the OPA holiday, on the other hand, two and a half times as many cattle were slaughtered in Chicago as in the New York City-New Jersey killing plants.

That didn't mean that Chicago housewives were getting more meat during the holiday than New York housewives. Packers usually find it cheaper to ship dressed meat than live cattle and when the big packing companies were able to buy cattle and ship the meat, a large part of the product went east.

The reason New York is getting the meat is that it's the black market paradise. It's the city where hundreds of thousands of out-of-town visitors are on hand every day, with plenty of money to spend and no questions asked.

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From Times Picayune, Sept. 16 -

RECORD PLANTINGS OF GRAIN COVER CROPS ARE REPORTED-AP-State College, Miss.--The fine quality of livestock exhibited at county shows during the week has made more farmers conscious of the agriculture extension service's urgent plea for more winter cover crops.

County agents report that in some counties record plantings in small grains and cover crops were made during the week.

More oats were planted last week in George county than ever before, according to County Agent B. J. Hilbun. He said blue lupine, a rather new cover crop in that section, has become a promising crop with 30,000 pounds of seed being planted this year. Half of that amount was harvested in the county.

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From Atlanta Constitution, Sept. 14 -

SWEDES RAISE HUGE VEGETABLES FROM ELECTRICALLY HEATED SOIL-Chicago-A report that north of Stockholm the Swedish Government has created some tropical soil that doubles the size of tomatoes and peas was made here Friday by Dr. Gustav Egloff, world famous petroleum chemist.

The tropical soil is a by product of a commercial plant getting oil from shale and Dr. Egloff described it in an interview at the American Chemical Society meeting.

Sweden had neither coal or oil and was forced to burn wood, and that even great piles of straw were fed to industrial furnaces. The Government thereupon set up the shale oil project, with results that Dr. Egloff said would be of great interest to Americans looking forward to a time when our shale will be used for oil.

Four methods were used by the Swedes to get oil from shale, three by ordinary mining, and the fourth by the system that created the unexpected by product of a tropical soil. In this system, holes about two inches in diameter were drilled through 25 feet of ordinary soil, down into and through 50 feet of underlying shale.

The holes were set in concentric circles. Electrical heaters then began warming up the shale. This continued for months until the rock was heated to nearly a thousand degrees Fahrenheit.

Meanwhile the ground had been warmed by the artificial heat. The Swedish officials figured that this heat would last about 30 years before final cooling. And on the soils so heated in the last three years there was the surprising increase in size of vegetables.

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From San Francisco Chronicle, Sept. 14 -

A LESSON ON BUTTER-Editorial-It is perfectly clear, and members of the Price Decontrol Board, like 140,000,000 other Americans, know it perfectly well from their own experience as consumers over the past nine months, that a decision to put dairy ceilings back can only mean one thing.

No butter.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 20 -

ARBITRATION AWARD ADVANCES FORMULA TO END SEA STRIKE--A formula for the settlement of the fifteen-day-old maritime strike was advanced yesterday by James L. Fly in an arbitration award that provided for the elimination of pay inequities throughout the shipping industry.

Mr. Fly's award thereby removed the basic issues of the dispute--the demand of three striking unions for pay parity with similar crafts in the industry--and was immediately accepted by thirty nine Eastern operators who said it made unnecessary a continuation of the strike by the National Maritime Union, CIO.

An actual settlement was prevented, however, by the refusal of the NMU, as one of the unions affiliated with the Committee for Maritime Unity to enter into a final agreement until West Coast shipowners settled with two Pacific Coast unions of the CU that are also on strike.

The West Coast unions are the Marine Firemen, Oilers, Watertenders and Wipers, independent and the Marine Cooks and Stewards, CIO, which like the NMU, went out on strike demanding wages to equal those of unions in the American Federation of Labor.

The Fly award established the basis for a solution of their grievances, too, and was reported to have had a favorable reaction among the West Coast unions.

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POTATO MOVEMENT BEGINS--Riverhead, L.I.--Suffolk County farmers resumed today the shipment of potatoes stored in fields under the program of the United States Department of Agriculture. Four freight carloads left here consigned to the Publicker Industries, Inc., Philadelphia, for conversion into alcohol. The Government agreed last month to pay growers \$1.67½ a hundred pounds for Grade I potatoes held in field storage to await outlets. The September payment is \$1.77½.

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BRITISH WHEAT CROP POOR--London--The wheat harvest here is believed to be the worst since 1893, the National Farmers Union said today. What is left is endangered by the serious shortage of skilled labor and machinery, the union statement said.

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STATE GROUP ACTS TO END HIDE TIEUP--Endicott, N.Y.--A group of citizens headed by the Mayors of Endicott, Johnson City, Binghamton and Oswego, flew to Washington today to get quick Federal action to end the hide shortage which is crippling the shoe industry of this and other important shoe manufacturing centers of the country. The delegation carried with them petitions asking for relief in the crisis bearing the names of 62,678 area residents. (Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

From New York Times, Sept. 20 -

U.S. PRESSES HUNT FOR HIDDEN MEAT-As housewives, hospital patients, delicatessen shops and retail butchers throughout the nation faced another weekend without meat, the Government intensified its hunt yesterday for hidden hoards being held for the black markets and maintained its vigil over those warehouses known to contain caches of beef and some other meats.

It was learned that agents of the Office of Price Administration have found a hoard of meat in Philadelphia, in addition to the stored meat which has been under surveillance in New York and St. Louis ever since retail price ceilings were restored on Sept. 10.

Enforcement agents believe that the holders of this meat--bought when ceilings were off--are getting ready to release it. As soon as that happens the OPA expects to move in on the black market shipments, wherever they may be made.

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RUSSIA RAISES PRICES OF RATIONED GOODS-Moscow-The first increase in the prices of rationed staples since the war began was announced on Monday when higher prices on rationed food became effective simultaneously with a reduction in the prices of food in commercial stores selling unrationed food.

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PRODUCERS OF CANS SEE CAPACITY TAXED-Can manufacturers may not be able to meet all demands of users of metal containers other than those for packing food should M-81 be modified next week as expected, representative of the industry declared yesterday. They emphasized that easing of this order would be made effective as of Oct. 1 when the greater part of the fruit and vegetable packs will have been completed.

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OPA DELAY BLAMED FOR LUMBER SLUMP-Failure of the Office of Price Administration to issue a full report of its Northeastern softwood cost survey together with price increases, after more than five months of delaying tactics, was blamed yesterday for the serious slump in output by mill spokesmen, who declared no improvement is likely until the agency takes action.

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From Baltimore Sun, Sept. 20 -

EASTERN MEAT PACKERS APPEAL TO ANDERSON-New York-Eastern meat packers today called on Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture to use his powers under the Price Control Act to end "an intolerable situation" which they said threatened the industry with ruin.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Sept. 20 -

WEEKLY 75,000-CAR SHORTAGE DUE NEXT MONTH - Indications are that beginning next month there will be, every week, about 75,000 carloads of freight—from thumbtacks to threshing machines, from tractors to toothpaste—that simply won't find wheels to roll on.

This means that each week a mountain of travel-minded merchandise big enough to load a super-train stretching from Chicago to Buffalo just won't travel. Some 70% of U. S. freight moves by train.

The nation needs 150,000 new freight cars immediately. But only about 26,000 have been made so far in 1946. At that rate, it would take four years to roll out the new cars needed right now.

Transportation experts see a need of 80,000 to 100,000 new cars yearly for the next four years. Taking the lower figure would give a four-year total of 400,000. At 1946 production rates, the program would not be completed before today's second-grade kids got their high school diplomas.

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MEAT FAMINE will last longer than Porter promises, say Agriculture officials. Anderson's advisers don't agree with the O.P.A. that fresh supplies will grace butchers' cases within six to eight weeks. They term Porter's prediction "wishful thinking." Ranged cattle normally slaughtered in the fall are being bought by feeders who'll fatten them for higher prices later.

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SWIFT, WILSON MEAT PACKING PLANTS IN NEW YORK CITY SOLD, Chicago - Swift & Co. and Wilson & Co. announced the sale of their respective New York City packing plants to an "unnamed purchaser." It is understood that the two plants will be torn down to make way for a housing project. Possession must be given before July, 1947.

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MEAT SITUATION WILL BE WORSE BY NEXT SPRING, ANDERSON PREDICTS, Albuquerque, N. M. - Secretary of Agriculture Anderson said the meat situation, although bad now, will be much worse by the second quarter of 1947.

Mr. Anderson estimated that meat consumption by spring would be down to an annual basis of 116 pounds per person, or on a level with the lowest consumption reached during the war.

Halting of meat exports, recently ordered by the Agriculture Department, will not ease the situation very much, he said, adding: "We weren't exporting much meat anyway."

Mr. Anderson denied any responsibility for the announced closing of restaurants because of the roll-back in prices to June 30 levels. The Retail Grocers Association in Oklahoma has been sponsoring a "write Secretary Anderson" campaign.

"I don't think I have anything to do with the retail prices which affect restaurants," Mr. Anderson said. "That is the business of Mr. Porter (O.P.A. Administrator Paul Porter)."

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CALIFORNIA MEAT MARKETS MAY CLOSE, Los Angeles - More than 1,800 retail meat markets here may lock their doors next week unless the shortage is eased, predicted Philip R. Melnick, secretary-manager of the Meat Dealers Association of Southern California.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Wall Street Journal)

Farm Digest 2065-46-3

From the New York Wall Street Journal, Sept. 20 (Cont.) -

LEWIS ASKS REMOVAL OF MEAT PRICE CONTROL, Washington - John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, called for the removal of price controls on meat, asserting that a shortage is developing into a famine in the coal fields. An official of the Price Decontrol Board commented that no action could be taken now.

Mr. Lewis, in a telegram to the Board, declared that miners cannot dig coal on a diet of cereals and vegetables.

"Grave unrest" is spreading in mining areas, and mines already are closing down in West Virginia, Kentucky and Virginia because miners are unable to buy meat, Mr. Lewis stated. Adequate supplies for miners are necessary to insure ample coal to meet industrial and domestic demands this winter, Mr. Lewis said.

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COTTON FUTURES moved over a wide range under alternate influences of trade buying and outside selling which was influenced by weakness in securities. New Orleans and local traders were on both sides of the market. Mills continued to release a substantial volume of accumulated textiles to the trade which was accompanied by good mill buying in the futures market.

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OATS FUTURES in Chicago were lower yesterday, while other cereals advanced. Selling in oats futures followed reports of increased producer offerings of cash oats at declining prices. Feeders were less active buyers of oats, and industrial demand, which early this week stabilized prices, was absent. Millers bought wheat, and there was elevator covering against sales of cash wheat to the Government. The Commodity Credit Corp. was again credited with buying wheat at Chicago and Kansas City for its export program. The weather was again reported clear and warm over most of the belt—ideal for conditioning of corn.

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From the New York Herald Tribune, Sept. 20 -

TRUCK OWNERS SUE LOCAL 807 FOR \$10,000,000; PARTLY SETTLED STRIKE HAMPERING INDUSTRY - Holdout employers in New York's truck strike filed a \$10,000,000 damage suit on Federal court yesterday charging Local 807, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, with conducting an unlawful strike in violation of the Smith-Connally war labor disputes act.

With the partly settled strike hampering industry and commerce in the city for the nineteenth straight day, still another damaging teamster dispute appeared to be developing into a long affair. Members of Local 804, on strike against the United Parcel Service, voted to remain away from their jobs in defiance of the international union. The parcel strike has disrupted deliveries and receipts of merchandise by 375 department stores and specialty shops.

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From the Times Picayune, September 17 -

PROTEST LOWER LEVEL ON MEALS - Protesting what they said was an OPA intantion "to make guinea pigs of us," the Louisiana Restaurant Association Monday forwarded a telegram to Paul Porter, OPA administrator, pledging "our libert and our savings to resist such Communistic efforts by any legal means at our command."

The telegram, a copy of which was sent to President Truman was sent to President Truman seeking his intervention, followed a four-hour emergency session of the association's board of directors with members from throughout the state.

It was the outgrowth of a request conveyed by OPA last week to the National Restaurant Association, urging that prices be rolled back to 1943 levels, according to J.J. Kramer, executive secretary of the state association.

Mr. Kramer said that compliance would compel restaurateurs to absorb the increase allowed by OPA to farmers, wholesalers and processors and to furthe absorb increases in labor costs.

Text of the telegram follows:

"Unless the OPA rolls back the cost of our commodities, we cannot and will not roll our prices back to 1943 levels. If you issue the order attempting to make guinea pigs of us, we pledge our liberty and our savings to resist such Communistic efforts by any legal means at our command."

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From the Watertown Daily Times, Sept. 16 -

WHY THE MEAT SHORTAGE? - Editorial - Various explanations are given for the current meat shortage, among them the reestablishment of ceilings. There would be plenty of meat, we are told, if prices were allowed to seek their own level. As it is, the growers are on strike and the processors and distributors are aiding this movement. Such is the contention made in some quarters and Representative Sabbath of Illinois has demanded a federal investigation.

However, experts in the department of agriculture, who have been in touch with cattle raisers, say there is nothing to this. There is no growers' strike, they say, and there would have ^{been} a meat shortage whether price ceilings were restored or not. The stock is simply not available and will not be for several weeks or possibly months.

What happened is this: When ceilings went off meat and wholesale prices on the Chicago market soared to the highest level in history, there was excessive marketing. All the "growers," as they are called, rushed their cattle to the stock yards with the result that supplies of marketable cattle were so depleted that there is none to be had today.

Animals left on the ranches and the feeding lots are such as would produce only second or third grade meat.

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From the California Cultivator, Sept. 14 -

GOOD ROADS ESSENTIAL - Editorial - Good all-weather, farm-to-market roads are vitally important. They are important, not only to get food stuffs to market, but also to supplies back to the farms. A recent survey showed that rural America is the nation's No. 1 highway user. The first national highway users conference has been set for Sept. 26-27 in Washington, D.C.

From the Atlanta Constitution, Sept. 17 -

LOCAL MEAT SHORTAGE BLAMED ON OPA CEILINGS-OPA ceilings on meat have driven that commodity out of the markets of the Atlanta area and are directly responsible for a large volume of unemployment in the meat industry here, according to I.P. Reagan, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 442 of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butch Workers of North America (AFL). Of about 3,000 workmen in the meat industry in this area, Reagan says that between 1,500 and 2,000 are now unemployed.

In an effort to remedy this situation, Reagan yesterday sent the following telegram to President Truman: "After five days of the unworkable OPA, we find thousands of workers in the Atlanta area unemployed. Meat markets and packing houses are completely bare. We beg that immediate action be taken to remedy this situation.

Packers will not buy live-stock under present ceilings, sayd Reagan, and hence unemployment in the meat industry is on the increase. The result according Reagan, is that the public is getting no meat. "At the present time," continued Reagan, "even the black market operators are scared to operate here."

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From the Chicago Journal of Commerce, September 17 -

MEAT PLANTS REJECT OPA POLICE ROLE-Washington, The meat industry has flatly refused a request of Paul Porter, price administrator, to act as policemen for the Office of Price Administration in the drive to crack down on black market operators on the ground that early attempts of packers to bring illegal slaughtering to OPA's attention were repulsed by enforcement officers.

At the secret meeting in Chicago about ten days ago, it is now learned, Mr. Porter attempted to enlist the aid of legitimate packers, both large and small, in an all-out enforcement drive. Although packers pledged to abide by OPA rules, they condemned them as unworkable and refused to take risks of subsidy loss through lack of compliance with cattle buying regulations when they were asked to go out and buy livestock in competition with illegal operators who are not interested in collecting subsidies for their profits.

It is reliably reported that at least one large packing firm told Mr. Porter that, from the standpoint of protecting stockholders, the best thing his company could do would be to close down all operations until the confusion attendant to price controls is ended. Packers also reportedly told Mr. Porter that the entire history of livestock and meat regulation enforcement is replete with crooked dealings on the part of enforcement officials, who allegedly accepted bribes to wink at infractions of OPA rules that bind legitimate packers.

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From Kansas City Times, September 17 -

OPA MEAT VIGIL FOCUSING ON BIG CITIES, Washington-A revival of spectacular sleuthing tactics, reminiscent of the days when this nation was attempting to enforce prohibition, may be seen all over America in the next few months as the OPA engages in a desperate effort to make its price ceilings stick.

Recent developments in the enforcement division of the OPA indicate that the war against the black marketeer will be carried on with all the weapons available to the government, including undercover investigation and straight policing of suspected retail outlets. Under the direction of George Moncharsh, deputy administrator of enforcement, the OPA has marshaled a force of 5,000 agents which will be scattered over the nation to try to stop the flow of scarce items into illegitimate channels.

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SEP 27 1946

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 23 -

U.S. ACTS TO AVERT NEW MARINE STRIKE-With the ports of the nation looking forward to a resumption today of full-scale shipping operations following the seventeen-day maritime strike, Secretary of Labor Lewis R. Schwollenbach named last night a special mediator in contract dispute between the Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union of the CIO under Harry Bridge and the West Coast Waterfront Employers Association.

The Labor Department announced that its mediator, Nathan P. Feinsinger, a University of Wisconsin professor and a former member of the War Labor Board, would go to San Francisco immediately. He will attempt to head off another general shipping tieup a week from tomorrow, when the longshoremen's contract expires.

At the same time the department announced a schedule of meetings today and tomorrow in New York in a move to reconcile differences between two East Coast marine unions and ship operators. Both of these unions also have contracts expiring on Sept. 30 and have threatened to strike unless the jam in negotiations is broken.

Another development here was a prediction that New York Harbor would feel for another ten days the effects of the walk out that ended Saturday.

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TOWEL AND LINEN MANUFACTURERS ACCUSED OF HOARDING PRODUCTS-The shortage of towels and linens, long a sore spot with the nation's housewives, has reached such an acute stage in offices, factories and hotels that the supply and service firms are down to their last crying towel and are calling for help.

Speaking for the \$75,000,000 service industry in this State, William Sylvester charged yesterday that manufacturers were hoarding vast amounts of good grade towels and bed lines, hoping for higher ceiling prices. Meanwhile, he said, they are substituting waste materials, duck, cheesecloth, paper, sugar bagging, and potato sacking for pure cotton or huck toweling.

He said the present "artificial" shortage was worse than the war shortage of cotton and huck.

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FREIGHT CAR OUTPUT RISES-Washington-Class 1 railroads put 5,257 new freight cars into service during August, the Association of American Railroads announced today, the largest number in any month since May 1942 when 6,305 cars were built. In the first eight months of 1946, 26,325 new freight cars have gone into service, compared with 27,740 in the 1945 period. As of last Sept. 1 the class 1 railroads had on order 50,169 new freight cars and 556 locomotives, with 481 of the locomotives to be Diesel-powered.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

Farm Digest 2075-46

From New York Times, Sept. 23 -

NEW FLAT CEILING SET ON SUGAR HERE-New flat ceiling prices on sugar, lard, oleomargarine, shortening, cooking and salad oils in the New York district were announced yesterday by the Office of Price Administration.

The local ceilings, effective immediately, are: sugar, 10 cents a pound; lard, 25 cents a pound; oleomargarine, 27 cents a pound; shortening, 26 cents a pound; cooking and salad oil, 35 and 36 cents a pint.

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NEW TREND NOTED IN FOOD RESEARCH-A trend in nutrition research toward greater emphasis on infant care and the deferment of old age diseases was noted yesterday by Dr. Charles Glen King, scientific director of the Nutrition Foundation, Inc., in his annual report.

"Extension of interest beyond merely achieving rapid growth," Dr. King declared, "will mean increasing consideration of maternal and infant feeding and warding off degenerative diseases that are associated with old age."

The foundation was organized in 1941 by food manufacturers and others in related fields to promote nutritional research. Its projects range from protection of infant life through better feeding to increasing nutrient qualities of such common foods as corn and tomatoes.

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AIR FREIGHT-Editorial-Among problems of reconversion which appear on so many fronts is a growing crisis in transportation. The wear and tear on war on railroad rolling stock and over the road trucks and trailers at least is beginning to be felt seriously. Replacement has been only a drop in the needed bucket. With the harvest movement of grains and feeds, the unprecedented movement of cattle and hogs and the mounting industrial demands, all means of transport in the next few weeks are to feel the strain to the breaking point.

The demand by Stabilization Director Steelman for Federal Agency cooperation to bring relief from this situation is fully justified. It will be interesting to see how importantly a comparatively new agency of transport, air freight, will be able to contribute to a solution of the railway car and motor truck shortage. The Independent Airfreight Association, representing leading lines that fly cargo, has pointed out that there are now in operation more than 500 big freight planes capable of hauling more than 5,000,000 ton miles of freight a day. The growth of this industry, brought into being very largely by veterans of the war, has been a revelation in recent months. Already it is being used for the movement of a most heterogeneous cargo. This form of air transport, both through the medium of the certified airlines and of the newer fixed base operators, will have an opportunity to demonstrate its capabilities should the transport crisis be intensified.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 23 -

PRICES UNCHANGED IN SHORT SESSION - Cotton prices fluctuated in a narrow range at the short Saturday session on the New York Cotton Exchange. Without security markets as a guide, trading appeared to mark time

Over the week, however, gains of as much as 39 points were recorded in current crop positions, the lead being taken by the near October price was recorded by closing on Friday, with a rise of 34 points. The distant 1947-48 crop positions lost as much as 14 points during the week.

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SUGAR MOVEMENT STILL RETARDED - At the week-end the movement of sugar into consumer channels was still retarded in the New York metropolitan area by the truck and ship strikes and in other parts of the country by failure of stevedores to unload vessels although some minor improvement was noted.

In ports where ships were manned by AFL crews, stevedores were working the vessels. Where the CIO was involved, however, no deliveries were made. In Philadelphia the refineries were expected to resume today with the unloading of several ships by AFL union men. In New York, while the National reportedly was shutdown again for lack of raws, American Sucrest were still working. But while American was making rail deliveries, it was not moving any sugar in its own trucks. Sucrest on the other hand was moving large quantities in the buyers' own trucks. Union rules make this possible.

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SEPT. OATS GAIN FIVE CENT LIMIT - The expiring September oats contract at Chicago advanced the 5c daily limit as last minute covering by shorts encountered a scarcity of offerings during the closing minutes on Saturday while deferred deliveries for that grain finished $\frac{1}{2}$ c higher to $\frac{3}{4}$ c lower.

For the past several weeks the bulk of the trading interest has centered on oats due to the temporary stoppage of trading in some grains and restricted facilities in others.

Early strength in wheat resulted on a comparatively small volume of buying orders stimulated by reports of a firm cash market and the persistent buying of cash wheat by the CCC during the week which, for all practical purposes, placed a floor under the market and presaged growing tightness in the actual grain, in the opinion of many market observers.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Sept. 23 -

BRITAIN'S FLOUR extraction rate has been reduced from 90% to 85% by Food Minister Strachey. This is welcome news to Britons who find the existing bread loaf unpalatable. Even chickens peck dubiously at it.

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(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Wall Street Journal.)

Farm Digest 2075-46-3

From the New York Wall Street Journal, Sept. 23 (Cont.) -

AAR PREDICTS HEAVY FREIGHT CAR DEMAND THIS FALL WITH FARM PRODUCTS SHIPPED IN RECORD VOLUME, Washington - Moving an expected record agricultural crop this fall "will tax railroads to the utmost" in a season when peak requirements for freight cars are anticipated.

A survey of the national transportation situation by Warren C. Kendall of the Association of American Railroads, says that the volume of farm products will exceed previous records by about 5% and the 10-year average by about 30%. Major findings of the survey were:

Closed cars: Shortage is now greatest in the Northwest. Movement of cotton in the Southeast and Southwest, harvest of rice and soybean crops, increasing shipper requests for building materials, canned goods and fertilizers are expected to reach a high for the year during September, October, November. Livestock and automobile cars are not now short because of a lull in livestock loadings and the comparatively small production rate in automobile manufacture.

Refrigerator cars: The demand is quickening "very fast", but the recent lull in loading permitted re-location to areas where cars are most needed. The Agriculture Department estimates refrigerator car loading of fresh fruits and vegetables during September, October and November will be about 8% more than during the corresponding 1945 period.

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From the New York Herald Tribune, Sept. 23 -

FAVORS WORLD FOOD BOARD, London - The proposed international ever-normal cupboard to provide an even flow of food staples at stable prices and governed by a world food board was strongly supported tonight by Sir John Boyd Orr, head of the United Nations food and agriculture organization.

In a talk prepared for delivery over the British radio, Sir John declared establishment of a world food board would stabilize international prices and then "build up world reserves of food and so level out good and bad harvest." When prices dropped, he said, the board would take food off the market at a predetermined price and in time of scarcity could release food reserves to prevent prices rising above predetermined figures.

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LEATHER TRADE THREATENED BY HIDE SHORTAGES - Continued shortages of hides has brought the tanning industry to "the most critical state of a critical period," with further curtailment of what are only minimum, essential operating levels "now at hand," it was reported in the industry yesterday. Diminishing supplies of domestic hides, which have been the mainstay of the industry for the last year and one-half, and the lack of any improvement in the import hide situation have created "an unprecedented threat" to the leather and shoe industries.

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The Milwaukee Journal, Sept. 17 -

WHICH WAY ARE THEY HEADING-Editorial-CIO and PAC speakers in Milwaukee recently urged delegates at a regional conference of the CIO-UAW not to alienate the farmers, who were described as politically important.

The same day, the Greater New York CIO council, which claims to represent 600,000 workers in the metropolitan area, urged President Truman to remove Secretary of Agriculture Anderson because he recently intervened in price control to obtain higher livestock prices for farmers.

Which way are you going, boys?

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From The Davenport Democrat, Sept. 17 -

MEAT FAMINE A MIRAGE-Editorial-The way it looks from here--and the way it looks at points South, East, North and West--the livestock situation is of a pattern. There definitely is reason to say that the country is feeling the effects of a meat famine.

But the way it looks at Washington is contrasted in a report of Department of Agriculture experts saying that predictions of meat famine were "overly pessimistic" and forecasting a rising volume of meat with a month or two. Evidently the consumer public and the food experts at Washington do not see eye to eye on the meat situation.

What the former views as an established fact, the latter regards as a possibility, too pessimistically anticipated. By way of corollary, the experts venture to predict a rising volume of meat in the near future. Whether the forecast is or is not overly optimistic remains to be seen.

There does not appear to be much point in debating the serious aspects of the meat situation. What this country needs is more meat. If the food controllers can do something about it, more power to them. But a good guess is that they can do nothing about the mess they have created.

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From Boston Herald, Sept. 19 -

RESTAURANT ROLL-BACK-Editorial-It is like looking for a needle in a haystack to find any present ceiling price as low as the April, 1943, level. Yet OPA somehow expects restaurants to roll back to something like that standard, even though everything else has gone popping up, meat, coffee, butter, the printing of menus, pay for the help and, often, rent.

The new order, effective with startling suddenness on Sept. 16, requires that dishes composed in the main of controlled commodities must be sold at the prices in effect on June 30, 1946, which are also the prices of April, 1943. Thus, though all the meat ceiling is substantially up, restaurants and hotels may not charge more for meat dishes than they did three years ago.

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From the Chicago Journal of Commerce, Sept. 17 -

FARM OUTLOOK GOOD, Editorial--Some of the gentlemen who like to play with statistics and come up with predictions based on their figures are saying that a sharp farm deflation is in store for 1947. Their impressive sets of numerals and dire warnings of a severe reduction in agricultural income would be more credible had they not overlooked one important fact--parity.

Farm producers are guaranteed prices equivalent to 90 percent of parity. These supports are written into law and without any more congressional action will be in effect through the 1948 crop season even if the official proclamation of peace is issued this year--and five will get you eight it won't be. There just can't be a real break in farm prices next year or the next.

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From the Chicago Daily Tribune, Sept. 18 -

THE BOSS OF OPA, Editorial--The more we learn about Mr. Paul Porter, the boss of OPA, the more he fits the pattern of the insane despot. Mr. Porter has recruited a corps of enforcers trained to grab innocent men by the throat and threaten them with blackjacks and guns. A photograph of one such incident was published in THE TRIBUNE a few days ago. Mr. Porter's agent, Elmer Piper, was shown strangling E. E. Clifford, a salesman who happened to be present when Mr. Porter's thugs staged a raid on an automobile agency in Los Angeles. Mr. Clifford was not even under suspicion.

Mr. Porter's plug-uglies are a despot's answer to a despot's problem. Mr. Porter suffers from the hallucination that by means of brutality he can control the prices of scarce articles of which millions of people stand in need and for which they will gladly pay much more than the price he has declared to be lawful. Anybody with any sense knows that he must fail. Everybody who can remember the prohibition era knows that his corps of enforcers will be rotten with corruption because honest men, as a rule, won't take that kind of job and the more they see of it the less they will be attracted to it.

That is the kind of thing that insane despots never realize. They go their brutal way, advancing from excess to excess. The present state of the live stock and meat business is all the answer that can be required. The housewives can't find any meat in the butcher shops and the black market is in rapid process of organization. A sound mind must have foreseen these consequences.

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From the Detroit Free Press, Sept. 18 -

CEILING UNLIMITED UNDER OPA, Editorial--In announcing a whole new series of price increases, and a roll-back in restaurant food prices, the OPA has made ancient history. It has relegated to the realm of outmoded and ineffective things the Administration hold-the-line policy which was once hailed as our salvation in the postwar recovery period.

The new increases in automobiles, textiles and other commodities simply is the addition of a few new categories to the price index which has risen steadily since V-J Day. And to permit some increases with one hand, and to turn back restaurant prices with the other to the levels which applied when OPA was created as a price control agency, is to reveal a high degree of inconsistency and a lack of realistic understanding of economic fundamentals.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From New York Times, Sept. 24 -

COUNTRY IS NEAR 'FAMINE' IN MEAT, CENTERS REPORT-Meatless meals became the order of the day practically throughout the country yesterday for its 140,000,000 inhabitants.

With no beef or pork offered at wholesale in New York, dispatches from the leading cities of the East and West indicated an actual famine or a near famine in most all meat cuts.

The little that was obtainable here and there was at prices which ignored OPA ceilings, for the most part, and came from under the counter for favored customers.

While admitting that livestock raisers are not releasing their cattle, hogs and lamb for slaughter, Washington opinion found some optimism in what was termed slowly rising production.

But there was no optimism in Philadelphia where meat was virtually non-existent and hospital dieticians as well as hotel and restaurant chefs said that meatless menus would be a daily occurrence unless the supply was substantially increased immediately.

In Chicago, the heart of the country's meat industry, the famine hit rock bottom. Practically all reserves were exhausted and no relief was in sight, retailers and stockmen agreed.

More than 90 percent of all meat counters were closed and about 15,000 CIO and AFL meat industry workmen have been laid off.

Livestock arrived at the market in trickles. The day's run was 5,500 cattle, 1,500 hogs, 6,000 sheep and 500 calves. Except for sheep the animals were subnormal from the meat production viewpoint.

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BUMPER CORN CROP DIMS MEAT PICTURE-Washington-Experts in and out of Government noted slowly rising meat production figures today with some optimism, but conceded that they did not know the answer to what seemed to be the big question:

Will the country's livestock raisers release their animals in anything like normal quantities under present price ceilings when they have an abundant crop of corn coming up to supply the feed needed for any disposition to wait for higher prices?

Livestock is not being sent to market in normal quantities now.

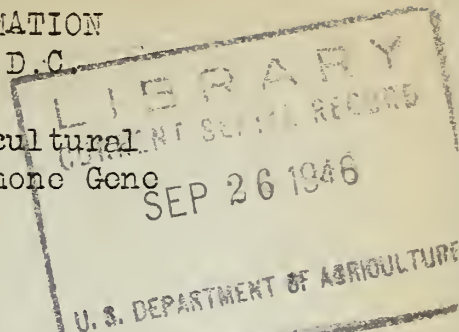
The Department of Agriculture reported the slaughter of 163,300 cattle in the twelve principal markets last week. A total of 307,976 cattle were slaughtered in the same markets in the corresponding week last year. Less than 30,000 hogs went to market last week, as compared with nearly 115,000 head a year ago, and 228,600 sheep were slaughtered last week, as compared with 290,500 in the week of 1945.

However, last week's figures were higher than those for the preceding week, when the slaughtering totals were 103,794 cattle, 24,350 hogs and 183,328 sheep.

There is good prospect that the supply will improve steadily, representatives of the meat industry and the Government agree.

(Turn to page 2 for other items - - - -
in N.Y. Times.)

Farm Digest 2075-46



From New York Times, Sept. 24 -

PRICE CURBS VITAL SNYDER DECLARES-Milwaukee-The direct regulation of prices by the Government will have to continue for a time because supply and demand are still out of balance in some commodities, John W. Snyder, Secretary of the Treasury, said in a speech here tonight at a dinner of the Executives' Club of Milwaukee.

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DISCLAIMS BLAME IN LINEN SHORTAGE-Declaring that sheets, pillow cases and towels are moving into consumer channels at approximately the same rate at which they are manufactured, Worth Street representatives of cotton mills yesterday disclaimed responsibility for the acute shortage in the linen and towel services and laundries.

As for substituting waste material, cheesecloth, sugar and potato bagging for newly manufactured sheeting and toweling textile men said that mills producing towels and bed linens would hardly be the ones to supply cheesecloth and potato sacking, as they do not manufacture these articles.

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WIDE EFFECT SEEN ON A & P DECISION-Grocery manufacturers declared yesterday that as a result of the court decision finding the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, twelve of its subsidiaries and sixteen of its officers guilty of conspiring to control a substantial part of the nation's food business many companies could be expected to review voluntarily all discount programs, including advertising and other promotional allowances.

Representatives of the industry charged that the spread in prices between the large and small buyer would also be narrowed. They also emphasized that one of the long-range developments would find wholesalers with a good sized volume able to buy food products close to prices paid by the Great Atlantic and Pacific and other chain store organizations.

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N.Y. STATE FEED OUTLOOK IS SEEN MUCH BETTER-Albany-The feed situation for New York's dairy and poultry farms next winter promises to be "considerably better than a year ago" The State Department of Agriculture said today, despite lighter crops of wheat and hay. The Department, releasing a Federal-State crop report, said yields of corn, oats, barley and buckwheat would run higher than in 1945. The estimated wheat crop of 5,446,000 bushels was reported as "little more than half" the 1945 harvest. The ten-year average is 7,036,000 bushels.

A hay crop of 6,069,000 tons, harvested mostly under "excellent conditions" was below last years 6,316,000 but over the 5,345,000 ton ten year average.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 24 -

DAIRY PRODUCTS ADVANCES ACCELERATE RISE IN INDEX - A steady rise in the commodity price level which has persisted for the past two weeks was accelerated with a jump in dairy products yesterday. The Journal of Commerce daily index of 30 sensitive commodity prices rose to 227.3 compared with 226.8 on Saturday. Wheat and corn gains lifted the average in the grain group. Meager offerings in corn strengthened prices for the yellow grain while CCC purchases continued to bolster the wheat market. Raw cotton lost ground along with the stock market.

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RICE MARKET - The rice industry is faced with only one major difficulty at this time, that of a pricing formula covering clean varieties upon which to do business.

Many interests feel that this will be announced shortly, and it was also believed that providing advances are granted in proportion to the allowances already made on rough rice, that business on 1946 production will open up rapidly.

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NEW FLOUR EXPORT QUOTAS IMMINENT - Easing of the transportation jam caused by the recent maritime strike was expected to result in renewed concentration by many mills upon the export market and to be reflected by some let-up in the volume of offerings for the domestic market.

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ALL GRAIN FUTURES DISPLAY STRENGTH - Grain futures displayed pronounced strength during the morning trading at Chicago yesterday with January wheat establishing a new high of \$2.01 $\frac{1}{4}$, and corn and oats registering advances ranging up to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c a bushel.

Bullish sentiment was stimulated by reports of much colder weather and rains over parts of the corn belt which, it was feared, would cause damage to the maturing crop, and continued strength in cash markets.

Also contributing to the buying movement were reports that a large percentage of Western cattle moving to market has been going to stockers and feeders. There were no reports of further CCC purchases of cash wheat but only a small part of that agency's requirements have been filled and it was expected that large scale buying will be witnessed from time to time.

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PETITION ANDERSON TO DECONTROL FLOUR, Washington - On the basis that flour is not in short supply, and because prices will not rise unreasonably when maximum prices are removed, the Flour Milling Industry Advisory Committee today formally petitioned the Secretary of Agriculture to decontrol flour prices.

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(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.)

Farm Digest 2085-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 24 (Cont.) -

CORN STOCKS OFF SHARPLY AS WHEAT SUPPLY RISES, Chicago - Visible supply of wheat increased 1,995,000 bushels to 82,398,000 bushels this week, the Chicago Board of Trade reported today. Corn decreased 1,382,000 to 6,162,000 bushels.

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DAIRY PRODUCTS REGISTER ADVANCES - General butter market situation continues extremely firm, with prices moving above recent levels and demand extremely broad. General supply picture is of storage reserves extremely low and production continuing well below the average for the period. All industry elements are tremendously gratified by the decision by the Decontrol Board in Washington to keep dairy group ceilings off.

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LARGE CASTOR BEAN SHIPMENT ARRIVES - Over 26,000 bags of castor beans arrived at the Port of New York last week, according to the Sept. 23 Import Bulletin published by the N. Y. Journal of Commerce. The first arrival of mistletoe stems since the war is also reported.

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COTTON PRICES DIP WITH STOCK MART - After touching new highs for the year, cotton prices fell in sympathy with securities late in an active session on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Sept. 24 -

PLANNERS WOULD STUDY NEEDS SET ACREAGE, Washington - The Administration's agricultural planners are converting a wartime full-farm-production scheme into a weapon against peacetime crop surpluses.

They plan to extend a system of crop "guides" over such major farm commodities as wheat, corn, soybeans, potatoes and peanuts. These guides, officials hope, will stave off overproduction by telling the farmer in advance just how much is needed and how much his own soil shall produce. This new device puts a sort of reverse-English on the "crop goal" program used during the war to boost national food production.

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COTTON PLANTING RAMPAGE is coming next year, Government cotton men fear. Kite-high prices are blamed. A farmer now gets as much for a pound of cotton as he did for seven pounds in 1932. At above 37 cents the price in New York is up 300% from the 1938-39 average. Politicians fan farmer dreams with "40 cent cotton" talk. Worried over the 1947 surplus prospects, an Agriculture Department platoon recently took a turn through the South for reconnaissance and questioning. They came back guessing 1947 plantings, would be from 25 to 27 million acres, some 50% above this year. Inquiring officials found most cotton farmers expecting a return to Government acreage control in 1948. One argument used for big 1947 planting: A farmer thereby assures himself a large allotment in 1948.

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From St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Sept. 22--

TOO LITTLE LAND TO FEED WORLD SAY THE EXPERTS--Washington--
There are too many people in the world, population experts say. Overpopulation, they say, is a root problem of the United Nations seeking freedom from want and from war. Overpopulation they insist, is a basic cause of want, which is an inevitable breeder of war.

Guy Irving Burch, director of the Population Reference Bureau a private research organization, says freeing the people of the world from want, fear, and war is mainly a job of establishing a balance between the number of people and the natural resources and technical developments of the world.

Burch points out that natural resources particularly food are much more essential than technical developments.

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From Antigo Dairy Journal, Sept. 20 -

3,000 STRAINS OF CORN GROWN ON SPOONER FARM--Spooner--More than 3,000 strains of corn, each with its own pedigree and characteristics, are being grown near here this year.

They are all on one farm--and all, in fact, in one 6 acre field. It's the University of Wisconsin's corn nursery at the Spooner branch experiment station, where the university seeks to breed promising new corn hybrids adapted to Wisconsin's soil and climate.

These 3,000 strains aren't finished corn varieties, either. They're just the parent lines, from which can come an almost unlimited number of hybrids.

So that crossing for the development of new hybrids will follow according to plan, pollinations are made by hand. Arthur Strommen, in charge of the nursery, directs the task of making 50,000 such pollinations each year.

Besides the breeding nursery, the farm has another six acre plot for field trials. Here tests are being made of various hybrids for silage, of flint and dent and pure flint hybrids for very early corn, and of the comparative worth of various 85 and 90 day hybrids both university developed and commercial.

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From Western Livestock Journal, Sept. 17 -

WRECKING MEAT BUSINESS--Editorial--It seems that it is time for the citizens of this country to rise in wrath at the tomfoolery that is not only wrecking the tremendously valuable meat business but is preventing consumers from getting meat and taking away from producers the long established outlets for their cattle. This situation is deadly serious when many of the independent meat packers of the Pacific Coast find it absolutely impossible to operate.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agriculture items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Herald Tribune, Sept. 25 -

ANDERSON SEES FARMERS' PRICES AS HIGH ENOUGH-Albuquerque-AP-Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson told farmers tonight that their price ceilings now are as high as they need to be to stimulate production.

His view was expressed amid reports that some farmers are holding their produce from market in hopes of higher prices later.

It appeared significant, too, in the light of the meat industry's intention to petition him for removal of price control.

Mr. Anderson coupled his statement with a warning that consumers are becoming resentful of price rises and shortages.

He drafted his speech for a nation wide broadcast because, he observed, "every farmer wants to know what the score is for the months ahead."

"Ceiling prices" the Secretary said, "do not seem to be impeding the needed production of any agricultural commodity and we in the Agriculture Department feel that price adjustments are behind us and that there should be few if any additional recommendations for upward price ceilings."

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From New York Times, Sept. 25 -

CHICAGO OPA 'VOTE' TODAY-Chicago-Distribution of ballots to afford to Chicagoans a chance to vote on ending OPA controls was started today and the first balloting will be done by tomorrow.

The vote, sponsored by the Associated Food Dealers, Inc., the Food Retailers of Greater Chicago, and the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers Workmen Union, AFL, was attracting national interest.

Results of the local survey will be forwarded to President Truman, while the actual ballots will go to the Meat Industry Advisory Committee of the OPA, which will use them as evidence, before the De-control Board on public sentiment on controls.

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RESTAURANTS, OPA CONFER ON PRICES-Washington-Representatives of the restaurant industry and of the Office of Price Administration have been conducting for several days, informal conversations out of which there may come, in a few weeks, an easing of the OPA's "rollback" of restaurant meals and dishes having meat as the major ingredient to the prices in effect on June 30.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From New York Times, Sept. 25 -

MILK CRISIS SEEN CITY PLANS ACTION-To counter the "imminent peril to the health of children," the city Board of Health decided yesterday to hold a public hearing next Tuesday on emergency measures to increase New York's milk supply.

At the meeting, which will be held in the Health Building, the following proposals will be discussed; that the city seek milk outside its usual milk shed for the first time in twenty years—specifically from Midwest dairy farmers; that priorities be issued to milk users, among whom home consumers would hold number one preference; that the sale of loose milk be resumed temporarily.

The Board of Health acted on the recommendation of Health Commissioner Israel Weinstein. He told the board that while current deliveries of fluid milk were averaging 3,600,000 quarts daily, only 3 percent under normal, the city faced a serious danger during the season of short supply from October to March.

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BRITAIN TO CONTINUE RATIONING OF BREAD-London-Food Minister John Strachey threw cold water on the public's hope of a quick end to bread rationing by announcing today that he had told bakers that "they must not assume that we should be able to end bread rationing at the next opportunity." However, he confirmed that he had asked them to work out their own proposals to limit flour consumption "against the blessed day" when rationing could be removed.

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FAVORS PRICE RISE FOR VEGETABLE OILS-Washington-John R. Steelman, Stabilization Director, expressed his concurrence with the recommendation of the Department of Agriculture that the ceiling prices of cottonseed oil and cotton linters be increased.

The Department has recommended an increase of 1 3/4 cents a pound on cottonseed oil, with similar adjustment in the ceiling prices of soybean oil, corn oil and peanut oil prices.

In the case of cotton linters, Mr. Steelman said that they would either be raised by 3 cents a pound or removal from controls by the Office of Price Administration.

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CONGRESS SESSION URGED TO END CONTROLS BY OPA-Boston-With indignation mounting over the acute meat shortage, United States Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire demanded today that President Truman call a special session of Congress to eliminate price controls on food, clothing and housing. Representative Christian A. Herter of Boston announced a special Congressional committee would meet here next Monday to investigate the famine.

Senator Bridges declared at Concord, N.H. that the Office of Price Administration controls were "actually retarding the country and jeopardizing the health of our people."

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 25 -

RISING PRICES TO REDUCE 1947 NET FARM INCOME, Chicago - The 1947 net farm income will "likely" be lower than in 1946 because of a rise in the price of non-agricultural commodities, Dr. Earl L. Butz, head of the Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University, said today.

"The net income of farmers in 1946," he said, "will probably be the highest on record, in spite of a rise in operating costs. It is likely that the 1947 net income will be lower than in 1946, because prices of non-agricultural commodities may be expected to rise relative to agricultural products prices during the year ahead, and because it is problematical if we can again have a year of such favorable production as 1946."

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OPA CONSIDERING SHIFT IN FUTURES BASIS OF COTTON COST - The question has been raised whether October pricing of cotton textiles by the Office of Price Administration will be based on the average price of October futures or December futures in the Sept. 8 to 22 period. Washington is reported studying this. The October average was 36.63c a pound, the December 36.52c. The difference is 11 points or 55c a bale of cotton.

Ordinarily the trade would not quibble over this, but the fact remains that even on the October average the 36.63c price is 52 points, or \$2.60 a bale, under the actual price of October on Sept. 21, last day of the period of averaging. Mills getting short changed here do not like to think they might get short changed for 11 points more. In September they got short-changed for about 1c a pound or \$5 a bale on cotton, and in the wage adjustment they were further short-changed for 3c an hour of the 8c an hour increase.

In cotton OPA is supposed to give the "current cost." It has taken the "near month" in futures as a reflection of current cost. October is nearest to spot prices. Later months have since gone to a discount. The discount does not mean that the mill gets cotton cheaper; it has to pay the spot price, which is most closely reflected by October, or buy on call. If the mill buys on call, the spot merchant who sells the cotton adds in the discount. Thus if he sells a given grade at 50 points on October, he offers the same cotton at 65 on December, and so on. This is a situation frequently overlooked in a market where speculation puts forward months at a discount, and it has had no place in OPA pricing. Actually October is the near months and the accurate month for basing October cotton goods pricing. For November pricing, of course, December would become the base, since by next month deliveries and liquidation of the October contract are in order.

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COTTON CLOSES HIGH WITH STOCK MARKET - Cotton prices hit new highs for the year as October closed at 37.48 in a fluctuating session on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday. The final range was up 30 to 45 points.

Major factor again was the upswing in securities late in the session. Analysts attributed the optimism to the ending of the tense international situation with the Stalin announcement that he did not foresee war with the western allies. Two Department of Commerce officials just returned from Russia did not expect any resumption of trade relations between the United States and the Soviet unless credit was advanced by Washington. However, there were some reports in the market that Russia was making inquiries for purchase of American cotton.

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 25 (Cont.) -

INDEX INDICATES CUBAN SUGAR RISE - Based on the continuing rise in the BLS cost of living index, to which the price of Cuban sugar is tied, present indications are that as a minimum one-quarter of Cuba's shipments to the United States this year will bring 4.413c a pound.

The index for August, it was learned yesterday, stood at 171.2 compared with 165.7 in July. The average for the two months was 168.45. Assuming that September will be as high (the indications are that it will be higher), the gain for the third quarter over the base for the third quarter over the base index for the last quarter of 1945 will be 28.18 or 20.09 per cent. That percentage applied to the 3.675c base price for Cuban sugar represents a gain of 74 points or 4.413c.

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JANUARY WHEAT AGAIN ADVANCES - Chicago grain futures prices leveled off after a firm opening and at noon the market was irregular, with fractional changes with the exception of the nearby January wheat contract which was 2c above the previous final.

Corn was 1/8c higher to 3/4c lower; oats 1/8c to 5/8c higher; barley unchanged to 3/4c higher, and wheat unchanged to 2c higher.

Strength in nearby wheat reflected small country offerings and receipts; reports of further purchases of cash wheat by the CCC and expectations that the cash market will continue to display strength as long as the Government agency remains a buyer. Moreover, it was pointed out that if the milling industry obtains decontrol of flour prices it will be able to compete against the CCC for available supplies.

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EGGS, BUTTER SHOW SUBSTANTIAL BOOSTS - Receipts Sept. 23, 26,827 cases. Extremely firm tone in shell egg markets with an active demand and price levels being pushed upward to a further considerable extent. Interior pricing situation rules very firm with rates prevailing in many cases above a relationship with those existing here. Fresh production has lately come down faster in many areas and the use of storage reserves is increasing. General consumer call has broadened heavily for both eggs and poultry under the restriction in meat supplies.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Sept. 25 -

BIG RETAILERS PUT BY FAT FUNDS TO CUSHION FALL WHEN PRICES DROP - Big retailers are stuffing plump pillows to land on when consumer resistance jerks the high prices chair from under them.

Montgomery Ward has tucked away a fat \$20 million roll earmarked especially for the time when inventories lose much of their value. Sears Roebuck had \$28.5 million in its stocking marked "reserve for contingencies" at the start of this year.

A Wall Street Journal survey of department stores in leading cities reveals that many, with one eye on the 1920-21 chapter of their history book, are doing the same thing. Most see a price decline not too many months away.

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DAILY FARM NEWS DIGEST
(For Sept. 26, 1946)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Washington 25, D.C.

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From New York Times, Sept. 26 -

M'CORMACK URGES 60-DAY SUSPENSION OF MEAT CONTROL-Boston-The country's meat famine brought today from Representative John W. McCormack, House majority leader, a demand that price controls on meat and other scarce foods be suspended for sixty days.

Mr. McCormack said he had gone over the current situation with President Truman, other Congressional leaders and various officials in Washington before telegraphing to Paul A. Porter, head of the Office of Price Administration that suspension of controls was "absolutely necessary if our hospitals and our citizens are to receive sufficient meat."

He asked OPA to lift meat ceilings for the sixty day period to enable the Price Decontrol Board to study costs and check prices being charged by wholesalers, distributors and retailers.

The controls could be restored, if necessary, after the study he added.

Two New England Governors, Maurice J. Tobin of Massachusetts, Democrat, and Raymond E. Baldwin of Connecticut, Republican, added their pleas for Federal action and the entire Massachusetts Congressional delegation cast aside all consideration of party politics to ask the White House and the OPA to halt meat price controls at once.

Governor Baldwin, in a telegram to Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson, urged that special slaughtering quotas be established for hospitals and other public institutions and that meat from Government sources be made available to them. He reported a "desperate shortage of meat" in Connecticut hospitals.

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ANDERSON AWAITS FORMAL STEP-Albuquerque-Secretary Anderson said today that "from my own reading of the law it seems" that removal of maximum prices on meat "requires a recommendation from an industry advisory committee."

"If any such petition comes to me on meat the department will take action on it promptly," he declared in a statement.

"But," he added, "if one of the requirements for decontrol is a showing that the commodity is not in short supply, such a finding might be difficult to justify, as the present outcry for more meat would indicate."

Mr. Anderson issued the statement after Representative McCormack had called for suspension of controls on meat and other scarce foods.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From New York Times, Sept. 26 -

REECE DENOUNCES "TRICK"-Washington-Representative McCormack's proposal for a 60 day suspension of meat price controls was met by Department of Agriculture spokesmen today with the comment that such suspensions were legal and have been tried from time to time. The ceiling on citrus fruits was once suspended for 60 days, it was noted.

Carroll Reece, Republican National Chairman, called Mr. McCormack's proposal a "cheap political trick."

He stressed that Mr. McCormack was not advocating "abolition" of controls on meat, adding:

"He merely wants to suspend them in an effort to kid the voters into believing that the problem has been solved and still leave the way open for a resumption of unrestrained bureaucratic government after the election."

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LACK OF DRUGS LAID TO MEAT SHORTAGE-An increasingly acute shortage of certain drugs prepared from the organs and glands of animals was indicated yesterday in reports by the New York Academy of Medicine, laboratories, drug manufacturing concerns and large meat slaughterers such as Swift & Co, and Armour & Co.

The scarcity of meat was said to be the primary reason for the drug shortage. War conditions, black markets and price fixing methods of the OPA were called contributing factors.

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ARMY DEMAND SUPPLIES-Washington-The War Department told the meat industry today that it must have 15,000,000 pounds of meat each week-- $\frac{1}{4}$ of the available supply--for the armed forces, and warned that it would invoke its requisitioning powers if necessary to get it.

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U.S. PROVIDED 71% OF UNRRA SUPPLIES; TRUMAN ASKS NATION CONTINUE FOOD CONSERVATION-Washington-President Harry S. Truman in his quarterly report on the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration today called on this country to be ready when UNRRA ends "with workable plans which will enable the war-devastated countries to face the future with confidence and success."

"Having been largely successful in averting world tragedy during the most difficult period after the war, it would be doubly tragic if we were not prepared to meet the less difficult task ahead." The President urged continuing conservation of food supplies.

The report showed that this country on June 30 had contributed 61.6 percent of the tonnage, 68 percent of the value, of the supplies sent into receiving countries, by UNRRA.

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COTTON HITS HIGHS; CLOSES UNSTEADY - After October delivery advanced to 37.70, the 23-year high previously recorded in 1923-24, moderate hedging on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday led to closing losses of as much as 75c a bale. The three leading factors in the market were the pressure on the deliverable month, the unfavorable weather report and the advance in securities.

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RECORD CUBAN CANE CROP HELD LIKELY - With growing weather in Cuba continuing favorable, the sugar crop for marketing in 1947 on present indications will reach 5,500,000 short tons as a minimum and may reach 6,000,000 tons for an all-time record, trade sources report.

In view of this prospect, the chances are that domestic industrial quotas will rise 15 per cent and possibly 20 per cent in 1947. There is no reason why industrial users should not receive such an allotment, despite European needs next year, it is held. European needs output is improving and will be considerably above next year.

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BUYING COMPETITION FOR BUTTER GROWS - Continued extreme buying activity under increasing competition to secure sharply reduced butter supplies in relation to normal for the season. Prices here moved up another full 1c and in general higher than average premiums are prevailing, both in paying rates to producers and in sales prices to buyers.

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FREE SWEET CORN MARKET DISCUSSED - Reports mentioning the possibility of decontrol for canned sweet corn, within the next few weeks, are numerous in the spot canned food market, while trade opinion regarding such a move is well divided.

There is also a wide difference of opinion as regards probable production, but trade estimates as to final figures all agree that the yield will likely be below that of approximately 30,000,000 cases last year. Many traders do not anticipate any decontrol move, especially as this item is definitely on the short supply side, with practically all wholesalers and retailers depending upon the new pack to replenish holdings.

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ADVANCE IN CORN FEATURES GRAINS - Failure of the market to reflect the statement by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson that live stock ceilings will stand and that no further increases will be made combined with a long-range forecast of possible frost in some corn areas to bring in short covering which carried Chicago futures.

Much of the recent support in feed grain prices had been predicated on the possibility that live stock controls would be removed in view of growing complaints of the meat scarcity and many traders had anticipated a setback following the Secretary's speech. However, only fractional losses occurred early in the session and when prices started to edge higher increased momentum was provided by nervous shorts. Freezing or near freezing weather was predicted for western portions of Nebraska and Kansas today and fears were voiced that the cold wave would spread into other areas. Such a development might result in considerable damage as the weekly weather report pointed out that corn was still 10 days to two weeks away from frost free dates.

(See Page 4)

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 26 (Cont.) -

CANADA EXPORTS EGGS IN SHIPLOAD LOTS, Montreal - On the basis of the successful experiment carried out last spring, Canada is again shipping eggs to Britain by shipload, the cargo on board being composed almost wholly of the eggs stored here earlier in the year.....The current shipment will follow the lines of the experiment in May of this year when a shipload of eggs was accompanied overseas by S. C. Barry, associate chief of the poultry services.

No official figure as to the total to be loaded on board the ship has been announced but last spring it was stated that it was hoped to be able to ship some 500,000 cases of 30 dozen each this fall. In the fall of 1945 over 430,000 cases were shipped. Canada's eggs have been well received in Britain, each egg, being stamped with the word "Canada" for easy identification....

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PUBLIC HEARING DUE ON NY MILK SUPPLY - The New York City Board of Health, acting at the suggestion of Health Commissioner Israel Weinstein, has ordered a public hearing next Tuesday on emergency measures to increase New York's milk supply.

The agenda for the hearing already includes the following proposals: That the city seek milk from Midwest dairy farms; that priorities be issued to milk users, giving first preference to home users, and that sale of loose milk be resumed temporarily.

Weinstein reports that milk consumption went up after Labor Day and that present daily distribution is 3,600,000 quarts, about 3 per cent below normal. He predicted, however, that the situation would become much worse.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Sept. 26 -

FARM AREA BANKERS SEE GOOD BUSINESS AHEAD, Chicago - "The stock market can go to pot and for the first time in our history we can hold a convention and not worry about it."

This statement represents the opinion of farm bankers who happened to predominate among 20 questioned during the American Bankers Association convention. They were asked for views on the business for the rest of 1946 and 1947.

Bankers from the western grain and cattle belts, where both crops and prices are at record highs, were almost unanimously optimistic. Bankers from industrial centers were less sanguine about the outlook.

A warning that this country faces the possibility of "a boom and a bust" was made to the bankers yesterday by W. Randolph Burgess, vice chairman of the National City Bank.

As one Western banker put it: "this convention is characterized by the fact that there are no immediate financial crises ahead." The sharp decline in stock market values, which came after Labor Day, barely caused a ripple in bank operations in their territories, bank officers agreed. The Kansas bank commissioner, however, says he noticed a tendency for farmers to sell wheat immediately instead of waiting for a better price. Both Kansas banks and Kansas farmers are in the best condition ever and there is no chance for an agricultural depression such as characterized the last post-war period, according to the Kansas bankers. A banker from extreme Western Texas said, "were going into the winter in fine shape. We're disgusted with the O.P.A., of course. But what can you do about that? Conditions ought to be even better in our cattle raising territory in 1947, provided the O.P.A. is removed."

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, Sept. 24 -

MEAT SUPPLY LOW SCHOOLS APPEAL TO U.S.-Washington-Notre Dame, Butler university, and Culver Military academy, all in Indiana, said today they have less than a week's supply of meat, and asked for permits to do their own slaughtering of livestock.

The three institutions sent a joint telegram to Agriculture Secretary Anderson and OPA Chief Paul Porter. A copy to Sen. Capehart (R) Ind., requested his assistance.

The telegram, made public by Capehart's office, said that Notre Dame has 4,500 persons to feed, Butler university 1,600, and Culver 750 but that sufficient supplies are unobtainable under "present regulations."

Permission was requested for educational institutions to obtain permits "for the custom killing of their current requirements at specified local plants or other authorized packing plants."

They also asked that educational institutions be permitted to buy the livestock they need at ceiling prices and that authority be granted to specified slaughterers to prepare the animals for these institutions.

The telegram said the proposals, if approved, would partially help solve a "very serious food shortage" at the three Indiana schools.

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From The Commercial Appeal, Sept. 23 -

LITTLE TODAY LESS TOMORROW--THAT'S PICTURE OF MEAT SUPPLY-Little meat yesterday, little meat today and less meat tomorrow, unless the Office of Price Administration revises or removes quotas and ceilings immediately.

This is the consensus of members of the meat industry in Memphis interviewed yesterday.

With farmers, slaughterers, packers, wholesalers, retailers and restaurant operators over the Nation lodging persistent protests over Government controls and restaurant price rollbacks, meat supplies continue to shrink to an alltime low.

The packing industry reports that many plants over the Nation have closed their doors and others are operating with only a skeleton force. Only Thursday, the Nat Buring Packing Co. closed its distributing plant at Wilson, Ark., discharging 137 persons and cutting off a supply of 350,000 pounds of meat a week for Memphis. The reason given was that operations could not be continued under present OPA regulations.

Packers declare that farmers are holding their stock for feeding on corn raised this summer, because they cannot sell at a profit under OPA ceilings, and that a great part is going into black market channels which can outbid the legitimate packers, who must stop bidding at ceiling price.

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From St. Paul Pioneer Press, Sept. 23 -

HORSEFLESH-Editorial- The current meat shortage has called attention to the eastern horsemeat markets. It will be a long time before the average American can think of eating horseflesh with any degree of complacency. He will have to be much hungrier then he is today.

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From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Sept. 23 -

SOIL EROSION WORLD THREAT, JAYCEES TOLD, Detroit Lakes, Minn.-Civilization must conquer soil erosion before the latter destroys civilization, members of the Minnesota Junior Chamber of Commerce executive board were told here Sunday at their annual meeting.

The speaker was Dr. Malcolm Hargraves of Rochester, secretary of the Minnesota Izaak Walton league, who advocated immediate action to prevent complete loss of the fertility of the soil and ultimately its food-growing value.

Declaring that already half of the eight inches of top soil in Minnesota alone has been lost to crop-growing, Dr. Hargraves outlined a proposed campaign to prevent further losses.

These include, he said: Good soil practices, proper grazing, strip cropping, regulated forest cutting, continued research in soil erosion problems, maintenance of water levels in forest areas, flood control, silting of rivers, filling of reservoirs such as the huge Missouri River Basin project and expansion of such agencies as the AAA, agricultural extension service, conservation department and forest service.

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From the San Francisco Chronicle, Sept. 17 -

THE RUMORED MEAT FAMINE, Editorial-"The much-publicized 'meat famine,'" says OPA chief Paul Porter, "will be disclosed for the irresponsible rumor that it is." He goes on to advise the housewife to quit worrying about it.

Wonder how Porter arrived at this silver-lined conclusion. Did he, perhaps, push a button to summon the court wizards, and pose before them the weighty question "What goes with the meat famine?"

And did some Merlin of the OPA whip out his slide rule, murmur incantations fraught with calculus and logarithms, and emerge with a sheet of parchment on which the answer, translated from the Arabic, read: "What meat famine?"

It puts one in mind of an amateur weatherman, emerging, after deep and mystic calculations, at the conclusion that it won't, nay, that it can't, rain, and sallying forth coatless and hatless into the deluge.

Whoever may presently comprise Porter's circle of advisers, it's obvious on the face of it that he can stand one more--a housewife. We can hear her raise a lone, timorous voice among the sages: "With all due and humble respect to your magnificent intellects, gentlemen, there's still one thing that bothers me. The fact is, there isn't any meat."

In San Francisco, there was some talk that the meat shortage would be over in a few days. Maybe Mr. Porter heard about that, and maybe he believes in talk, while we, when we see full meat counters, will believe in them.

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From the Times-Picayune, Sept. 23 -

MR. LEWIS AND THE OPA, Editorial-The Congress of Industrial Organizations has long been in the forefront of OPA proponents. It demanded the retention and the strengthening of the OPA to protect the laboring man from soaring prices and to block inflation. But along comes Mr. John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of the AFL, to call for removal of price controls on meat. With a shortage of meat at this season, the removal of controls would permit the cost to the consumer to leap skyward.

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OCT 3 1946

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C.

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 27 -

TRUMAN REFUSES REMOVAL OF PRICE CONTROLS ON MEAT-Washington-President Truman refused today to intervene in the meat famine situation. He declared that he believed in the justice of the present price structure and that he would not ask permanent decontrol or a temporary moratorium on meat-price ceilings.

The President backed up Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture in the latter's recent statements that "price adjustments are now behind us."

The President, in his stand, thus refused to take the moratorium action asked yesterday by Representative John W. McCormack, of Massachusetts, majority leader of the House, or to call for a special session of Congress to decontrol meat as urged upon personally today by Representative Edith Nourse Rogers, Republican, of Massachusetts. Mr. Truman said firmly that he had stated his views.

Told that Robert E. Hannegan, chairman of the Democratic National Committee had issued a statement saying that the Executive Committee had asked him (Mr. Hannegan) "to discuss with the Decontrol Board and any other proper authorities ways and means of increasing the meat supply available to the American people," President Truman repeated that he had stated his views.

The President declared that dire predictions of famine were wholly wrong, and that the normal run of grass-fed cattle of the early fall would soon appear and improve the supply.

He blamed the present tight supply situation on Congress, saying that if price control legislation had been enacted in the early spring as he had asked, the present difficulties could have been avoided.

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POULTRY RECEIPTS TOP MEAT FIRST TIME IN CITY'S HISTORY-For the first time in the history of the Department of Markets poultry receipts in New York City exceeded those of meats. Markets Commissioner Eugene G. Schulz reported that all meat receipts for the week ended Sept. 21 had been 7,500,000 pounds, compared with 27,000,000 pounds for an average September week last year. Poultry receipts totaled 17,500,000 pounds, compared with 9,000,000 pounds a year ago.

With meat supplies already at a record low, the weekend prospect was even gloomier as most of the remaining wholesale houses shut down for the Jewish holidays. Commissioner Schulz reported that combined receipts last week of meat and poultry were 11,000,000 pounds below the city's normal consumption, but said this was offset in part by the use of stored frozen meats, fish, eggs and cheese.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, Sept. 27 -

RAIL COSTS LINKED TO PRICES OF MEAT-Washington-Paul Blanchard of Chicago attorney for Armour & Co., meat packers, told the Interstate Commerce Commission today that allowing railroads to raise freight rates on meats 25 percent would be "the greatest red flag you could wave in the face of organized labor."

Compensation for railroad operating losses should come, if necessary, from national subsidies and not from higher freight rates, he declared adding:

"Ceiling prices on meat are so closely related to transportation costs that higher freight rates will be reflected immediately and fully in higher food prices."

"It is inconceivable that the Office of Price Administration would fail to recognize and allow for an increase in freight rates on pork products; if the freight charge goes up, the worker will have to pay half a cent more a pound for pork chops."

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WHOLESALE FOOD PRICES RISE-Revealing an increase for the third straight week, the wholesale food price index compiled by Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., went to \$5.15 on Sept. 24, a rise of 2.4 percent compared with the previous week.

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CARLOADINGS OFF BY 0.9% DURING WEEK-Washington-Loadings of revenue freight for the week ended Sept. 21, 1946, totaled 899,053 cars, the Association of American Railroads announced today. This was 8,116 cars, or 0.9 percent fewer than for the preceding week, 61,700 cars, or 7.4 percent more than for the corresponding week last year, and 1,170 cars, or 0.1 percent more than during the corresponding week two years ago.

Decreases were reported for all commodities except merchandise, grain, and grain products and livestock.

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RESTAURANTS GET PRICE RULING SOON-Washington-The Office of Price Administration promised representatives of the restaurant industry today that a decision would be made "in the next few days" on a possible modification of the agency's action in "rolling back" the prices of meat offerings to those in effect on June 30. At the same time, the industry acting through its National Restaurant Industry Advisory Committee, presented to the OPA a resolution asking for the removal of restaurant ceiling prices.

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From The New York Herald Tribune, Sept. 27 -

PACKERS RETORT TO ARMY-Chicago-The big packers told the Army today that it will have to eat fish and chicken and like it. Spokesmen for the major packing firms said there is not enough meat to give the Army its requested 60,000,000 pounds of meat a month, priority or no priority. The Army Quartermaster Department has requested packers to set aside 25 percent of their production for service needs.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 27 -

CONGRESS SEEKING MEAT CRISIS RELIEF, Washington - Demands for a special session of Congress and an investigation of the packers arose today in the mounting clamor over the meat shortage, along with word that President Truman considers his hands tied by the new Price Control Act.

- - -

FARM FREIGHT RATE PREFERENCE ASKED, Washington - The ICC today heard pleas for preferential treatment of agricultural products in any freight rate increases granted the railroads.

A. L. Reed, attorney for cotton warehousemen of Dallas, Tex., urged the commission to reject the carriers' proposal for freight rate increases on cotton until all other sources ^{of} revenue for the railroads have been explored.

A boost in the railroad freight rates on cotton would force cotton merchants into the trucking business, Mr. Reed said. The roads propose a greater increase for short-haul traffic, on which there is keen motor carrier competition, he contended, than on cotton moving over a long distance.

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OCTOBER AGAIN HITS 23-YEAR HIGH PRICE - Lack of hedges in a thin market resulted in retouching 23 year highs on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday. Moderate trade buying at the close lifted the spot month to 37.70 and both December and March to the 37c level or higher.

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COTTON PICKING BEGINS IN SOUTHERN VIRGINIA, Richmond, Va. - The harvest of cotton in Virginia opened during the week in Greensville, Isle of Wight and Southampton counties.....

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WISCONSIN DAIRY CO-OPS EXPANDING, Madison, Wis. - Big things are happening among Wisconsin producer co-operatives, which already handle more than half of the total annual milk production in this State.

New production and processing units are being built by the old and established co-operatives. Improvements in method and equipment are being installed. New co-operatives are being formed or are being proposed by farmers and dairymen.

One of the biggest ventures now under way is the proposed Lake to Lake Co-operative in eastern Wisconsin between Lake Michigan and Lake Winnebago which reportedly has already signed up more than 1,200 farmers in southwestern Wisconsin, probably with the aid of the Farm Bureau Federation, to organize a similar dairy producers co-operative to serve that part of the State.

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(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce)

Farm Digest 2115-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 27 (Cont) -

THE ONLY SOLUTION - Editorial Comment - Last Monday Federal District Court Justice Henry A. Schweinhaut blocked the allocation of grain to beverage alcohol distillers on an historical basis by restraining the Department of Agriculture allotting the extra 500,000-bushel grant designated for September on such a formula.....

That the Judge should have seen fit to issue a restraining injunction seems almost inconceivable.....Even after the allocation of grain to beverage alcohol distillers on the formula established for September by the Agriculture Department, there was no indication whatsoever of discrimination against or inequitable treatment of newcomers. In fact, a table showing grain use under the mashing capacity basis for August, the new adjusted formula for September and actual prewar levels, indicates that the "newcomer" would still receive more grain than any one historic distiller.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Sept. 27 -

TRUMAN BLUDGEONED Anderson into backing Porter on meat price control. Mr. Anderson's radio speech approving O.P.A. meat controls was instigated by Mr. Porter. The O.P.A. chief, irked by Mr. Anderson's earlier attitude, took the fight to the White House. Mr. Truman sent word to Secretary Anderson to get in line with Administration policy.

The object of Mr. Porter's propaganda campaign is to convince farmers they won't get higher prices by refusing to market livestock now. But farmers' groups, fooled once before when wheat prices were raised despite previous pledges to hold the line, are still skeptical. The meat famine scares Democratic politicians. Mr. Anderson is swamped by telegrams from irate Congressmen. They've already persuaded O.P.A. to raise ceiling prices on veal.

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NOTE ON THE MEAT SUPPLY- Editorial - President Truman has refused to take price control off of meats. Let us be comforted. If the supply of horse meat gives out, will there not be an abundance of mule meat from Missouri?

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FRUIT GROWERS FREIGHT RATE INCREASE, Washington - Florida and California fruit growers brought before the Interstate Commerce Commission their differences over how railroad freight increases, if they are authorized, should be applied.

M. W. Wells of Orlando told the Commission the Growers and Shippers League of Florida opposes railroad proposals to increase freight rates 25% or 15 cents per hundred pounds, regardless of length of haul. This type of increase, he said, would increase rates on Florida fresh fruits, canned fruits and juices more than on California variety.

Karl D. Loss, representing the California Fruit Growers Exchange, Oregon Nut Growers and other organizations, told the Commission: "We support the position taken by the carriers that if the requested increase on fruit and vegetable rates is fully granted, it be 25% subject to a maximum of 15 cents per hundred pounds so that the increase per hundred pounds will be the same from Texas, California and Florida. Florida benefitted by previous reduction in this manner so they should accept increase on the same basis."

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From the Kansas City Star, Sept. 23 -

"BIG MEAT HOARD" - There are 11,730,331 pounds of meat in the freezers of packers and wholesalers in Greater Kansas City and "it looks as if there should be some in the butcher shops," Walter H. Negbaur, chairman of the price control board of the OPA here, said today.

One wholesaler had 150,000 pounds of tenderloin steaks, Negbaur asserted in a statement on the meat shortage in response to a letter from Mayor Kemp. Negbaur explained that his figures were based on reports to the Department of Agriculture and covered the period between September 10 and 16.

Actually, the total of stored meat here was much larger as his figures took into consideration only amounts of 25,000 pounds or more and excluded both government owned meat and that in private lockers, according to Negbaur. He said that the amount in private lockers probably was "huge."

Statements giving an entirely different picture here were issued by packer officials and wholesale meat dealers when informed of Negbaur's statement. One dealer said that the OPA official's figures probably were based on the period before ceilings were restored September 1.

Storage coolers in the major packing plants in Kansas City, Kansas, practically are bare, company executives said in reply to Negbaur.

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, Sept. 25 -

THE VEGETARIAN PARTY-Editorial-In Washington they are forecasting the end of OPA control of meat prices within a month. This outcome seems altogether probable. The butcher shops everywhere are bare. Only a few animals, and those of poor quality, are reaching the nation's stockyards. The only places which seem to have an adequate supply of meat are the hog shot \$20 a plate restaurants in the big cities, particularly New York.

The temper of the country is rising and the New Deal politicians and their PAC bosses are becoming alarmed. The fault is theirs and they know it. They hope that if the controls are lifted in the next few weeks, say by mid-October, meat will again become available before the election in November. They are counting once again upon the shortness of the voters' memories.

The voters are expected to forget that there was another meat famine before the OPA holiday which began on July 1. The butcher shops were almost bare then as they are now. The only time that meat has been plentiful in this country since the war was during the few brief weeks when OPA was off watch.

The zealots of the PAC and the New Deal bureaucrats couldn't let that last. They whipped up a lot of fancy petitions and applied all their apparatus of pressure on congress to get the controls restored. Congress resisted for a time, what was called a compromise, but in fact proved to be surrender. The controls were soon restored with the results which are now apparent. One of them is the unemployment of something like 100,000 men and women in the packing plants and butcher shops.

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From the Democrat and Leader, Davenport, Iowa, Sept. 24 -

NEW DRUG NOT AVAILABLE NOW FOR LIVESTOCK - Chicago, (AP) - The nation's livestock probably will not benefit from the new drug streptomycin for some time, the journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association reported Tuesday.

The civilian production administration has announced plans for limited commercial distribution of the new product, with streptomycin issued to selected hospitals which will act as depots from their areas.

The AVMA journal said the announced plan, however, leaves out availability of streptomycin for livestock use and that such use of the drug would be limited, at any rate, by its scarcity and high cost.

Streptomycin has been used experimentally in research on diseases of livestock.

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From the Dairymen's League News, Sept. 24 -

SOIL CONSERVATION - A recent booklet put out by the International Harvester Company on soil conservation contains some very striking facts on erosion and its causes and sums up some of the more important soil conservation practices by saying that:

"Broad drainage waterways should be maintained to provide a source of hay and pastures under proper management;

"Farm ponds may be located on the site of a gully or small water course to provide water for livestock and fire protection and even provide fish for food;

"Farm roads and livestock lanes should be planned to coordinate with the water disposal system;

"Fire breaks are desirable in wooded areas and pastures to act as a barrier against fire;

"Shelter belts and wind breaks are important in areas of suitable soil type and climate."

The booklet stresses the fact that soil conservation goes with the best kind of farm management and has its tangible benefits because it results in more income and adds to the security of not only the present generation but generations to come.

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From the Kansas City Times, September 23 -

AUTHORITIES ON MEAT - Editorial- In a nation-wide radio broadcast from Washington the OPA administrator, Paul Porter, told a meat-hungry public that "after we get over the hump of the next six or eight weeks, meat supplies should be fairly good."

In a statement a few days later from Albuquerque, N.M., Secretary Anderson of the Department of Agriculture stated, according to the Associated Press, that the meat situation, although bad now, will be much worse by the second quarter of 1947.

Mr. Porter looks after the retail ceilings on meat, while Mr. Anderson takes care of the ceilings on livestock. Probably the two of them see no relation between livestock and meat. But in some way they ought to see alike and try to relieve the anxiety of an indignant and long-suffering public.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Sept. 30 -

MILK PRICE RISES AGAIN TOMORROW IN CITY-The price of milk, already the highest in twenty-six years, will go up another cent a quart tomorrow in this city (New York) and in Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester Counties.

The increase, tied to an increase of 40 cents a hundredweight demanded by dairy farmers for their October milk, will bring the price of store milk here to 19 and 20 cents a quart, with a cent extra for homogenized milk. Home delivered milk will be 22 cents, and 23 cents if it is homogenized. Milk in paper containers is one cent more than these prices. The price of cream, both sweet and sour, will go up 1 cent a half pint.

First notice of the increase came yesterday in a statement by Edward O. Mather, executive director of the Milk Dealers Association of Metropolitan New York, Inc. Citing the increase of 40 cents a hundredweight demanded by the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, he said the league's action "has been or will shortly be followed by similar action on the part of all farmers producing milk for this market."

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BAY STATE ORDERS SEARCH FOR MEAT-Boston-Gov. Maruice J. Tobin today ordered State police and inspectors of the Department of Public Health to enter all storage plants and slaughter houses in the Commonwealth to determine if meat was being withheld deliberately.

Governor Tobin said that laws pertaining to conspiracy and restraint of trade might be invoked if any "combines" or "agreements" were disclosed.

Attorney General Clarence A. Barnes said the Governor could invoke such laws, and added that if it were found that storage plants or slaughter houses had falsified the monthly reports required of them, they might be prosecuted also on that score.

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MEAT INDUSTRY BLAMES COMMUNISTS-Chicago-Recent statements that packers have created an artificial meat shortage are of Communist origin and are interfering with efforts to restore a normal flow of meat, the American Meat Institute asserted today.

"Communistic doctrines and downright malicious falsehoods are having an important influence on the future production of livestock and the supply available to the meat industry for the production of needed meat", the institute said.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From New York Times, Sept. 30 -

PICTURES TWO MONTH MEAT FAMINE-Chicago-The meat famine will continue for at least two months and supplies will be "far short" of consumer demand for another year or so, a spokesman for the National Livestock Dealers Association predicted today.

H. M. Conway, executive secretary, said that when it was announced that controls on meat would be restored "nothing could have been done by government regulation to more nearly dry up the meat supply for the fall season."

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COTTON FORECAST MAY BE TOO HIGH-With two contracts reaching the highest levels in twenty-six years, the cotton futures market displayed considerable strength last week on support generated by numerous sources. At the end of trading on Saturday, however, the list of active months on the New York Cotton Exchange was 14 points lower to 97 points higher than the week before, with the advances concentrated in the old crop options.

Also tending to give strength to the upward trend of prices was the belief on the part of some in the trade that the Oct. 1 forecast of production of the staple might prove to be less than that of Sept. 1, due to reports for continuing unfavorable weather in the Cotton Belt.

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LARD AT STANDSTILL-Chicago-Lard has virtually disappeared from retailers' shelves and open market trading is at a standstill as the result of famine receipts of hogs. It is estimated that federally inspected packing plants have not produced over 5,000,000 pounds of lard, in the last two weeks, compared with a normal of about 50,000,000 pounds for the same period, and little lard is held in cold storage.

Bakers who took advantage of the larger supply of lard and fats while prices were decontrolled are reported to have used up the bulk of their supplies and an acute shortage is said to be developing with indications of curtailed production of bakers' goods unless the situation eases.

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GRAIN PRICES RISE IN RENEWED BUYING-Chicago-Considerable activity developed last week in the grain markets of the Board of Trade, with prices higher as the result of buying induced by a continued lack of box cars to move wheat and oats from the country to terminal markets, expectations of larger feeding operations and the possibility that a plea by millers to the Government would result in the ceiling on flour being lifted or removed. January and March wheat sold at a new seasonal high before reacting on profit-taking, while corn futures went into new ground since early August, and oats, since mid-July. Cash wheat showed a strong undertone owing to relatively light offerings.

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ACTIVITY IN CORN FUTURES-Chicago-Trading in corn futures on the Board of Trade here broadened materially last week, with some of the local professionals taking a strong stand on the bull side of the market, sending January to \$1.44½ a bushel at one time, up 14½ cents from the recent low. Profit taking and increased country offerings caused a recession from the top...

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 30 -

ADVERTISING PROGRAM IS BROADENED BY WAA, Washington - War Assets Administration has built an internal advertising set-up of more than 600 persons--in addition to numerous outside advertising agencies--for the surplus property disposal job.

Although many of the advertising specialists for WAA are employed at headquarters here to work with top disposal planners, the greater part of its advertising force is in the regional offices and elsewhere in the field near or at the actual locations of surpluses.

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TOBACCO HOGHEADS GET PRICE ADVANCE, Washington - To assure an adequate supply of tobacco hogsheads, the Office of Price Administration today announced increases in ceiling prices for material for these containers.

The action, effective Sept. 30, 1946, increases ceiling prices for Southern pine tobacco hogshead material by 12 per cent, and all hardwood tobacco hogsheads and parts of 4.7 percent. No increases, however, were granted for export tobacco boxes or for hardwood battens and cross pieces.

Today's increase on hardwood tobacco hogsheads is in addition to an increase of 7 per cent granted on Aug. 27, 1946, because of increases in lumber costs.

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PRE-COOKED MEALS - The housewife's job will be easier now as a result of a new food container that carries a whole meal--pre-cooked.

This stainless steel package combines sealed insulation with a construction that permits including individual freshly-cooked complete hot meals for delivery and serving within three hours after packaging.

The service will run to restaurants and clubs as well, say the makers, Mealpack Corp, of America, 152 West Fourth-second street, New York 18, N. Y.

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PLANS PENICILLIN LABELING REVISION, Washington - A floor on the actual amount of penicillin G in vials of the antibiotic labeled "Penicillin G" is expected to be set by the Food and Drug Administration next month, it was learned today.

Penicillin manufacturers are now experimenting with a new testing method for penicillin at the request of the FDA to see if it is effective in determining the amount of G and K in penicillin preparations. Results of these industry tests are expected to be in the hands of FDA by Oct. 1.

Should the tests be found workable by manufacturers, FDA may require that penicillin labeled as Penicillin G contain at least 90 per cent and perhaps 95 per cent of G.

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FLOUR PRODUCTION SHOWS 8 PER CENT INCREASE, Washington - The Bureau of the Census today estimated, on the basis of partial reports, that 23,900,000 sacks of wheat flour were produced in August by 1,123 mills which output in July was 22,100,000 sacks, and increase of 8 per cent.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.)

Farm Digest 2125-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Sept. 30 (Cont.) -

SEES FREE RUBBER TRADE THIS YEAR. - The return of a free market with natural rubber selling at sharply reduced prices before the end of 1946 was foreseen in industrial circles here over the week-end.

Substantion for this belief, industry officials point out, are the large surpluses of natural rubber cramming Malayan warehouses and the failure of the British Government to absorb quickly mounting Malayan production.

The United States, which originally contracted to purchase 145,000 tons by the end of 1946 has already reached this quota. Malayan production is expected to total 325,000 additional tons before the end of the year.

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HIGHER DOMESTIC WOOL PRICES TO BE ANNOUNCED, Boston - Representatives of local wool dealers are scheduled to meet with officials of the Commodity Credit Corp. tomorrow to discuss the raising of domestic wool prices, it was learned at the week-end.

While no official statement has been issued as to the extent of the price increase which is to be made in conformity with a rise in parity, dealers here believe that quotations on domestic shorn wool will be increased from 2c to 3c a pound on a greasy basis, or between 5c and 9c a pound clean basis.

The new prices are to become effective as of Oct. 1, it was reported.

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NEW SUGAR PRICE HELD REASONABLE - After worldwar No. 1 the complete consumer index price stood at 124.5 and refined sugar, net cash, New York sold up to 14.896c a pound. Today with the index at 143.7 the price of sugar is 7.448c.

The Meinrath Co. says, "It become apparent that the sugar price, rather than being high, is comparably low. Observe the degree of difference in the 1919-24 relationships and then note that the ratio of sugar to the 1946 wage scale and indexes is, to say the least, favorable to the new sugar price.

"Without laboring the point, therefore, we may conclude that sugar at present levels has not been priced out of the market."

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CITRUS JUICE PACK POSITION STUDIED - With the Florida citrus juice canning season only a little more than a month away, trade authorities are studying production prospects and, in many instances, reports from that State indicate that canners this season will not attempt to store canned juices in the hopes of encountering a rising market later on, such as developed the past few seasons.

Many producers feel that competition will be on a keener scale and that canning will be maintained closer to a basis of current orders rather than to try and anticipate business.

Last season was the banner one for packing citrus juices in Florida, with a total of 46,000,000 cases. Orange juice was the leader with a pack of around 18,500,000 cases, with grapefruit at approximately 15,000,000 cases and blended at 13,000,000 cases. In view of the proposed packer moves, it was thought likely that these totals will hold as a record in that State for some time.

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From The Kansas City Star, Sept. 25-

LIMITED ASSURANCE ON FOOD-Editorial--Secretary Anderson has gone as far as his authority permits in the effort to tell the farmers "what the score is for the months ahead." In his radio address last night the secretary of agriculture sought to remove price and control uncertainties which have been interfering with the marketing of livestock and other products. He expressed the belief that ceilings now are adequate for the stimulation of production and stated that so far as his department is concerned there will be few upward adjustments, in farm prices.

To a measurable extent this is reassuring. Farmers have had the legitimate complaint that they could not know the future because of constant changes in official policies. When ceilings were off in July and August they were uncertain of what was coming next, so rushed their livestock to market at the higher prices then obtainable. When ceilings were restored even at a higher level than that of June the producers had little to offer and still were held back by uncertainties. Secretary Anderson has shown that he was aware of the bad effects, of all this, both upon the farmers and the consumers. He would give assurance to both by saying the changes would be few in the months ahead.

But under the control extension law the authority of Mr. Anderson is limited. He can raise or lower farm product ceilings, but he cannot have the final word on what is done. If, for example, the meat industry carries out its purpose to petition him for the removal of ceilings and he refuses--as he has indicated he would do--then the matter goes to the decontrol board which might or might not remove them. There is one uncertainty beyond the control of Mr. Anderson.

Another relates to the removal of subsidies to begin in January in accordance with the present law. With the 50 percent cut in subsidies then scheduled there would need to be some adjustment of ceilings. Still another uncertainty beyond the control of the secretary is the action Congress might take on meat and other ceilings when it reconvenes in January.

The assurance Mr. Anderson has sought to give the farmers has its value for the immediate future. But the uncertainties that have harassed the farmers, the meat industry and the public for months will not be definitely removed until control itself has been definitely ended.

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From Detroit Free Press, Sept. 25 -

CEILINGS OR SUSTENANCE?--Would you rather have meat ceilings or meat? That is the question Detroiters are asked to answer on petitions in retail stores. The results will be forwarded to the Secretary of Agriculture and then to the Price Decontrol Board.

This is part of a nationwide poll taken at a time when not only Detroit but all other cities in this Country are virtually meatless. The condition is so bad in Boston that hospitals are serving horse meat to their staffs and patients. A heavy drain is placed on substitute foods. Workers in the meat business are being laid off by the thousands. Coal miners threaten to quit if they can't get meat. All because existing meat ceilings make it unprofitable to raise and finish livestock and sell it through processors and distributors. Vote to restore the law of supply and demand, to get rid of the black market, and, above all, to restore meat to the American diet!

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Farm Digest 2125-46-5

From The Boston Herald, Sept. 26 -

STEAKS AND MISTAKES-Editorial-Between the livestock farmers and Secretary of Agriculture Anderson a poker game is in progress. The former are betting that the ceiling price on meat will either be raised or abolished. So they are keeping their animals. They hold a pretty good hand, anyhow, because OPA has but dim chance of existing after June 30, 1947.

In a counter-play, Mr. Anderson has gone on the air to say with all the prophetic emphasis he is capable of that the ceilings will be neither increased nor abolished. He has tried to tell the farmers that it is no use holding back livestock because prices just aren't going up.

But Mr. Anderson is not a good poker player. The farmers who heard him just have smiled a grim smile, remembering that back this spring, when he was trying to get stored wheat off the farms for foreign relief, he asserted that the government would not raise its bid. But it did, and those who sold early on Anderson's assurance, lost a possible profit. It can't be done twice.

With plentiful feed, cattle can be held a year or two, hogs and sheep not so long. A few more meatless weeks, and the national demand for action will become so compelling that the government will have to give in. If a maritime strike can force a revision of wage policy, then a meat famine can bring a change in prices. Although this is no farm strike, being an unconcerted affair, its effect is the same.

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From Atlanta Constitution, Sept. 25

33 CAFES IN ATLANTA SUE OPA FOR REMOVAL OF MEAT CEILINGS-While restaurants in several States were reported defying OPA regulations as the meat shortage approached the famine stage in many sections of the nation, 33 Atlanta restaurants and eating places have filed suit against the OPA in U.S. District Court to have OPA's new meat price rollback declared unconstitutional.

Retailer's associations and some union and consumer groups in certain sections of the country were reported by the United Press to have increased their pressure for removal of OPA price controls on meat, asserting the shortage was causing unemployment and threatening shutdown of many steel mills and coal mines.

The Atlanta suit, brought by the Atlanta Association of Restaurants in the name of Wooding's Cafeteria Inc., and J. P. Webb, doing business as Imperial Coffee Shop, against immediate enforcement of the new OPA order. Federal Judge E. Marvin Underwood denied the petition, but set Oct. 1 as a hearing date on the suit.

The petition asks the Emergency Price Control Act be "declared unconstitutional, null and void...inoperative as to these petitioners."

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